MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

26 JANUARY 1981

Islamic Conference Summit

Riyadh radio and television carry live the opening of the Islamic Conference summit meeting in Mecca, including Saudi King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz' inaugural address to the meeting. The address, read by Crown Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, stressed the importance of the current "Islamic awakening," which is "no threat to anyone." The summit meeting, the speech continued, is "imperative" as a result of the "Zionist settlement and occupation" of Jerusalem and other places and the "colonialist Soviet invasion" of Afghanistan. The Muslim nation cannot achieve its aspirations by joining military alliances, the speech went on, or by coming "under the wings" of a big power. It called on the assembled leaders to display Islamic "solidarity" to defend their religion.

In an interview with Riyadh television, Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal said the current Islamic Conference summit will outline the details of a new surge in joint Islamic action over Jerusalem and Afghanistan. Prince Sa'ud denied that the Islamic states are seeking to form a military bloc and described Western media reports of an "Islamic bomb" as a "tendentious Zionist campaign" causing distortions and illusions.

AFP reported that PLO leaders at the summit are hoping that Islamic leaders will take an oath at the Ka'bah, Islam's holiest shrine, pledging themselves to do everything in their power to liberate Jerusalem, Palestine and other occupied Islamic territory from foreign occupation. AFP noted that the exact wording of the pledge is still under discussion.

According to the listing of delegations participating carried by Riyadh radio and television, Libya is not attending the summit. As was previously announced by Tehran radio, Iran is not participating. The Islamic Conference delegation headed by Secretary General Habib Chatti that is visiting Iran was received in Bandar-e 'Abbas by Prime Minister Mohammad 'Ali Raja'i on 23 January, Tehran radio reported, without giving any details of Raja'i's meeting with the delegation. At a Friday prayer service in Qom, reported by Tehran radio's Arabic service, Ayatollah Montazeri called on "the leaders of the Islamic states to do as Iran did and withdraw the Islamic peoples' assets from U.S. banks." On 26 January Majilis Speaker Hashemi Rafsanjani declared that if Iraqi President Saddam Husayn is expelled from the summit, if Iraq is considered the aggressor in its war with Iran and if "Islamic stands are adopted" at the summit, "we may be assured of the future of the Islamic world and can be hopeful regarding its unity," according to Tehran radio's Arabic service.

Iran

Reaction to Hostages' Release--"The Muslim student followers of the imam's policy" who seized the U.S. hostages issued a statement on 23 January explaining their motives and political loyalties and noting internal opposition to their action. In the statement, broadcast by Tehran radio, the students said they had acted, guided "by the will of God" and the "cries of their imam," to seize the U.S. Embassy, which was plotting against the Islamic revolution and working to establish a "moderate and dependent government" by supporting the "nationalists" against the clergy. Claiming they did not belong to any political group, the students said that they had "merely acted according to the general guidelines" of Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni and condemned political opposition to him. The statement revealed that "certain opposition" to the students' action had attempted "to suppress ... and discredit the movement" immediately after the embassy seizure by grievance letters to Khomeyni and other "plots." The students had remained silent about this opposition, the statement continued, to avoid internal divisions. The statement also announced that the embassy compound will be turned over to a "martyrs foundation" to house disabled soldiers.

The newspaper ENQELAB-E ESLAMI charged in an editorial that Iran's leaders have misled the people over the hostage negotiations, and that "not one" of the four conditions set by the Majlis "has been carried out." According to AFP, the newspaper, controlled by President Abolhasan Bani-Sadr, said that former U.S. President Jimmy Carter did not accept any of Iran's demands and that the "imperialists" are now laughing at Iran's proclamations of "victory." Noting the former president's statement that Iran received less than $3 billion of its frozen assets, the editorial blamed the government for failing to obtain other assets in Europe and characterized the deal as a "submission to imperialism."

In other reaction, Ayatollah 'Ali Khamene'i attributed Iran's "victory" to resistance based on religious beliefs and a "weak U.S. regime" that lacked popular support. According to Tehran radio's Arabic service, Khamene'i told a Tehran prayer service that Iran dealt the United States such a blow that it "had no choice but to submit ... and to give in." Ayatollah Saleh Taheri struck a similar theme, Ahvaz radio reported, stressing the value of religious faith in the struggle against the United States.

Raja'i Tour--During a tour through Hormozegan, Prime Minister Mohammad 'Ali Raja'i called upon all Iranians to overcome "religious bisectarianism" and "ideological differences" that threaten to stagnate and defeat the Islamic revolution. In remarks reported by Tehran radio, the prime minister stressed the need to reconstruct the country and "remove" any disruptive factors.

Iran-Iraq Conflict

Tehran radio reported renewed "intense" Iraqi shelling of Susangerd and along the Kabir Kuh Mountain fronts. Iranian forces clashed with Iraqi troops around Nowsud. The radio added, inflicting casualties and destroying some vehicles. The Iraqi General Command, in a series of communiques carried by Baghdad radio and INA, reported that Iraqi forces repulsed various Iranian probes around Dezful, Shush, Susangerd, Halabjah and Gilan-e Gharb.

Kurdish Situation

The pro-Iraqi Voice of Iranian Kordestan radio carried a special 1-hour program on 22 January marking the 35th anniversary of the establishment of the shortlived Republic of Kordestan.

Included in the program was a message from the "Central Committee of the Kurdish Democratic Party" (KDP) calling on "nationalist forces" in Iran to form a "united national front" to establish democracy in Iran and "autonomy in Kordestan." In other broadcasts, the radio reported continued clashes between KDP peshmerga and Iranian forces around Mahabad and Sanandaj which were confirmed by Tehran radio in its reports of actions against "counterrevolutionaries" in Kordestan and Western Azarbayjan. The "illegal, armed groups" extended their operations to the outskirts of Nowsud, Marivan and Mahabad, the radio reported, with Iranian revolution guards being forced to use artillery to drive the "counterrevolutionaries" from their positions. The radio also reported other clashes near Piranshah, Dezli, Darakeh and Paveh and noted a Sanandaj revolutionary court warning to KDP groups about their "acts of sabotage."

Saudi Arabia

Saudi-U.S. Relations--In an interview with the magazine IQRA reported by SPA, Crown Prince Fahd said the Saudi-American dialogue has not stopped and "positive cooperation" between the two countries is continuing. The prince expressed the hope that the Reagan administration will mark the beginning of a better era, bringing a "wind of change" to the Middle East and delivering it from its current "state of turmoil."

Regarding the possible resumption of U.S. arms sales to Iran, the Paris-based magazine AN-NAHAR AL-'ARABI WA AD-DUWALI, cited by QNA, revealed that "intensive contacts" have been held among Saudi Arabia, the Gulf states and Iraq to establish a unified position against such sales. According to "diplomatic sources," the magazine said these countries believe that the resumption of arms sales will upset the Gulf's military balance, restore Iran to its role as Gulf "policeman" and encourage Soviet encroachment into the region.

Yamani on Oil Prices--Oil Minister Shaykh Ahmad Yamani has told West German television that prices in the coming year will correspond to the expected low demand. Yamani foresees no drastic price increases, DPA reported, unless "political events disrupt oil supplies."

FBIS DAILY REPORT

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DELEGATIONS ARRIVE IN AT-TA'IF FOR ISLAMIC SUMMIT

LD241422 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0630 GMT 24 Jan 81

[Excerpts] At-Ta'if, 24 Jan (SPA)--Leaders of the Islamic states are continuing to arrive at At'Ta'if airport at the head of delegations attending the third Islamic Conference Summit, which opens in Mecca tomorrow.

At 0925 this morning the president of the Federal and Islamic Republic of the Comoros, Ahmed Abdallah, and the president of the Republic of the Maldives, Maumoon Abdul Gayoom, arrived in At-Ta'if.

His Majesty King Khalid headed those who welcomed the two guests.

President Ahmed Sekou Toure, president of the Republic of Guinea, arrived in At-Ta'if.

The delegation accompanying the president of the Republic of Maldives includes Fathulla Jameel, foreign minister; Abdullah Hamid, minister of the interior, and a number of officials. The delegation accompanying the president of the Comoros includes Said Kafe, minister of finance, economy, planning and external commerce; Ali Mroudjae, minister of foreign affairs and a number of officials. The delegation accompanying the president of Guinea includes a number of senior officials headed by Abdoulaye Toure, minister of external affairs and cooperation; N'famata Keita, minister of energy; Corkori, member of the Central Committee Politburo, Mamady Keita, minister of higher education and scientific research; Dr Sikhe Camara, minister of justice and member of the Central Committee, and Sikhe Camara, minister-governor of banking and insurance.

At 1025 the Prime Minister of the Republic of Uganda Otema Alimadi arrived with his country's delegation. The delegation accompanying Alimadi includes a number of senior officials among them Mohamed Ntege Lubwana, minister of tourism and wild life, and deputy leader of the delegation, and Abu Bakr Nadoli, Uganda's ambassador to Saudi Arabia. On the same aircraft carrying the Ugandan delegation was the delegation from Nigeria, which will attend the conference as an observer. The delegation is headed by Sir Abubakar, sultan-governor of the Province of Sokoto and the religious leader of Nigerian Muslims. It also includes Hadj Tahir Abu Bakr, Nigeria's ambassador to Jidda and a number of Muslim personalities in Nigeria.

At 1045 Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah, amir of the State of Bahrain, arrived with his country's delegation.

At 1055 the president of Sudan, His Excellency Ja'far Muhammad Numayri, leading Sudan's delegation to the conference, arrived in At-Ta'if.

The Sudanese delegation to the summit includes a number of senior officials which includes Lt Gen al-Fatih Bisvavah, the governor of Kordofan Province; Muhammad Mahjub Sulayman, Minister of State and First Adviser [as received] and Muhammad Mirghani Mubarak, foreign minister.

At 1115 the president of Djibouti, Hassan Gouled, leading his country's delegation, arrived in At-Ta'if. The delegation accompanying President Gouled includes Omar Gilli, head of the presidential offices; Aden Cheikh, Djibouti ambassador to Saudi Arabia, and a number of officials.

At 1125 Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad Al Thani, amir of the State of Qatar, arrived at the airport. The Qatari delegation to the Islamic summit includes a number of officials headed by Shaykh 'Abd al-'Aziz ibn Khalifah Al Thani, minister of finance and oil; Shaykh Ahmad ibn Sayf al-Thani, minister of state for foreign affairs; Dr Hasan Kamil, adviser to his highness the amir, and 'Isa Ghanim al-Kuwari, minister for information and head of his highness' office.

At 1155 the President of Somali Mohamed Siad Barre, leading the Somali delegation to the summit, arrived in At-Ta'if. The Somali delegation to the summit is a number of senior officials including Colonel Usman Muhammad Jilli, chairman of the party's general bureau for scientific research; Dr Abdurahman Jama Barre, foreign minister; Ahmed Mohamed Mohamud, minister of commerce; Dr Ali Khalif Jelir, minister of industry; and Shaykh Hasan Abdallah, president of the supreme court.

At 1235 the President of Syria His Excellency Hafiz al-Asad, heading the Syrian delegation, arrived in At-Ta'if to attend the Islamic summit. The delegation to the summit includes a number of senior officials headed by 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister.

At 1425 the president of Pakistan, His Excellency Mohammad Ziaul Haq, arrived at the airport heading his country's delegation to the Islamic summit. The Pakistani delegation to the Islamic summit includes a large number of officials from Pakistan, including Foreign Minister Agha Shahi, and minister of finance Ghulam Ishaq Khan.

More Arrivals

LD231958 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1555 GMT 23 Jan 81

[Excerpts] At-Ta'if, 23 Jan (SPA)--The delegations of Malaysia, Cameroon and Guinea-Bissau to third Islamic Conference summit arrived at 1730 today at the At-Ta'if airport.

The Malaysian delegation is headed by Dr. Mahathir Bin Mohamad, Malaysian deputy prime minister; the Guinea-Bissau delegation by Sama Lamine Mane, member of the Revolution Council and minister of natural resources; and the Cameroon delegation by Sadou Daoudou, minister of state for public service.

The Malaysian delegation includes Ahmad Rithauddeen, foreign affairs minister; Mohamed Bin Nasir, minister without portfolio in the prime minister's department; Hajj Abd al-Hamid Tahir, member of the senate; and Zakaria Muhamed Yatim, attorney general of the Malaysian Government [as received].

The Guinea-Bissau delegation includes Ayidir al-Amin, director general of Islamic affairs at the Foreign Ministry.

Morocco's King Hassan

LD231444 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 23 Jan 81

[Text] His Majesty King Hassan II, monarch of Morocco, and the accompanying Moroccan delegation at 1200 today arrived at At-Ta'if airport.

His Majesty King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz; His Royal Highness Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz; crown prince and deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers; His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, second deputy chairman of the council of ministers and commander of the national guard, His Royal Highness Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, minister of defense and aviation, His Royal Highness Majid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, governor of Mecca region; His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, foreign minister, and a number of senior officials, minister and senior civilian and military officials were present at the airport to welcome the king.

His Majesty King Hassan II heads his country's delegation to the third Islamic Conference summit to be held in Mecca.

Algerian Foreign Minister

LD231433 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1325 GMT 23 Jan 81

[Summary] Algerian Foreign Minister Mohamed Seddik Ben Yahia, who will be a member of the Algerian delegation to the Islamic summit, arrived in At-Ta'if this afternoon.

Chad's President Goukouni

LD231959 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1600 GMT 23 Jan 81

[Text] At-Ta'if, 23 Jan (SPA)--President Goukouni Oueddei of Chad arrived here at 1845 today to lead his country's delegation to the third Islamic Conference summit. King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz headed those present at the airport to welcome the Chadian president.

Turkish Prime Minister

TA232046 Ankara Domestic Service in Turkish 2000 GMT 23 Jan 81

[Text] Prime Minister Bulent Ulusu, who will represent Turkey at the third Islamic Conference summit, has arrived in At-Ta'if in Saudi Arabia. President Rauf Denktas who will represent the Turkish Federated State of Cyprus at the summit arrived in At-Ta'if together with Prime Minister Ulusu.

Can Okanar and Yener Arioglu from the Turkish radio and television news center report that Prime Minister Ulusu was received at At-Ta'if airport ceremoniously by Crown Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz Al Sa'ud. Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz Al Sa'ud was also present at the ceremony. The national anthems of the two countries were played, then Prime Minister Ulusu and the crown prince inspected the honor guard. Prime Minister Ulusu and President Denktas then went to the residences prepared for them.

Prime Minister Ulusu will meet with Turkish delegation in At-Ta'if tomorrow and discuss issues relevant to the summit. The third Islamic Conference summit--where Turkey is being represented at the level of prime minister of the first time--will begin in Mecca on Sunday, 25 January. The delegations will then return to At-Ta'if and continue the summit there. The summit will end on 28 January.

Oman's Sultan Qabus

JN240823 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 0755 GMT 24 Jan 81

[Text] Jidda, 24 Jan (GNA)--Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id of Oman arrived in At-Ta'if this morning to participate in the third Islamic summit. The sultan was received by His Majesty King Khalid ibn 'Abd Al-'Aziz of Saudi Arabia.

Gabon's President Bongo

LD241036 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0815 GMT 24 Jan 81

[Excerpt] Jidda, 24 Jan (SPA)--His excellency the president of the Republic of Gabon, Omar Bongo, leading his country's delegation, arrived in Jidda to attend the third Islamic Conference summit.

PLO's Chairman 'Arafat

NC241142 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 1115 GMT 24 Jan 81

[Text] At midnight last night brother commander Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] arrived in At-Ta'if leading a large Palestinian delegation, including a number of notable Palestinian and Western Christian men of religion, to attend the [Islamic] summit as an expression of the unity of struggle for Palestine and holy Jerusalem.

The Saudi radio and television carried the arrival of Brother Abu 'Ammar live. He was received by Saudi Information Minister Dr Muhammad 'Abduh Yamani, Fatah Central Committee member Brother Rafiq an-Natshah and the Palestinian mission staff in Saudi Arabia.

Jordan's King Husayn

JN241317 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 24 Jan 81

[Excerpts] His Majesty King Husayn arrived in Medina this afternoon on his way to Mecca to attend the meetings of the third Islamic Conference summit, which will begin tomorrow. The king was met on arrival by His Highness Prince 'Abd al-Muhsin ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, governor of Medina, a number of senior Saudi officials and the Jordanian ambassador to Saudi Arabia.

His Majesty King Husayn was accompanied by a delegation composed of: Prime Minister Mudar Badran; Ahmad al-Lawzi, chief of the Royal Hashemite Court; Hasan Ibrahim, minister of occupied territory affairs; Kamil ash-Sharif, minister of awqaf, Islamic affairs and holy places; Foreign Minister Marwan al-Qasim; and Walid 'Asfur, minister of industry and trade.

His Highness Crown Prince Hasan took the constitutional oath before His Majesty King Husayn and the members of the cabinet as regent during the king's absence from the homeland.

A royal decree was issued appointing Information Minister 'Adnan abu 'Awdah acting prime minister and defense and foreign minister during the absence of the prime minister and foreign minister, who are to attend the Islamic Conference summit.

Pakistan's Ziaul Haq

BK241530 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 24 Jan 81

[Excerpt] President Gen Mohammad Ziaul Haq was given a very warm welcome on his arrival in At-Ta'if this evening where he has come to attend the Islamic Conference summit. King Khalid welcomed him at the airport. Both leaders embraced each other and warmly shook hands. Those present at the airport to welcome the president included Crown Prince Fahd, Second Deputy Prime Minister Prince 'Abdallah, Foreign Minister Sa'ud al-Faysal, other royal personalities and Islamic Conference Secretary General Habib Chatti.

Iraq's Saddam Husayn

JN241646 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1625 GMT 24 Jan 81

[Excerpt] At-Ta'if, 24 Jan (INA)--Field Marshal President Saddam Husayn, commander in chief of the armed forces, arrived in At-Ta'if this evening to participate in the meetings of the third Islamic conference summit, due to open in Mecca tomorrow afternoon. President Saddam Husayn was accorded a grand official reception headed by His Majesty King Khalid ibn 'Abd al'Aziz of Saudi Arabia.

YAR's President Salih

JN241805 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 24 Jan 81

[Excerpt] Brother Col'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the republic and commander in chief of the armed forces, and his delegation arrived in At-Ta'if at 1800 today to participate in the third Islamic conference summit opening tomorrow in Mecca. The brother leader president was accorded a grand reception headed by His Majesty King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz of Saudi Arabia.

UN's Kurt Waldheim

LD250922 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0900 GMT 25 Jan 81

[Excerpt] At-Ta'if, 25 Jan (SPA)--UN Secretary General Kurt Waldheim arrived in At-Ta'if before noon today to attend and address the third Islamic summit. He was welcomed on arrival by His Royal Highness Amir Sa'ud al-Faysal, foreign minister, and Habib Chatti, secretary general of the Islamic Conference Organization.

DELEGATES DISCUSS SUMMIT AGENDA, ISSUES

Syrian Foreign Minister

LD231127 Kuwait KUNA in English 1022 GMT 23 Jan 81

[Text] Kuwait, 23 Jan (KUNA)--Syrian Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam said Friday that the Mecca Islamic Conference summit would not discuss inter-Arab differences and said that these differences should be dealt with by the Arab leaders.

Meanwhile, Khaddam failed to confirm or deny reports on a likely meeting between President Hafiz al-Asad, the Iraqi President Saddam Husayn and King Husayn of Jordan during the Mecca summit to be held next Sunday.

Relations between Syria and the two Arab countries had deteriorated in the aftermath of the outbreak of the Gulf war especially due to Jordan's support for Iraq in its war with Iran.

Khaddam told AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM newspaper Friday that differences between his country and Jordan were due to the Jordanian Government's involvement in supporting the extremist Muslim Brotherhood organisation opposed to President al-Asad's government, and to Jordan's refusal to permit the Palestinian commandos to carry out military operations against Israel from the Jordanian territories.

He repeated accusations against King Husayn of attempts to claim the Palestinian's role in negotiations aimed at settlement of the Middle East crisis and said that King Husayn will discuss in his proposed visit to (?Washington) Jordan's participation in such settlement.

Lebanese Prime Minister

JN241034 Doha QNA in Arabic 0930 GMT 24 Jan 81

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 24 Jan (QNA)--Lebanese Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan has said that his country will call upon the Islamic summit which will convene in Mecca tomorrow to discuss the Lebanese issue as a whole.

In an interview with AL-ITTIHAD paper published today, the Lebanese prime minister said that the Lebanese delegation to the At-Ta'if summit will exert every effort to draw attention to the Lebanese issue in order to find serious and quick solutions to it, adding that discussing the south Lebanon issue at the summit will be the way to tackle the Lebanese issue as a whole.

Al-Wazzan denied reports about cancellation of the meeting between Lebanese President Ilyas Sarkis and Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad which was scheduled to be held in Damascus before the Islamic summit. The meeting has been postponed due to the circumstances preceding preparations for the Islamic summit, he added.

The Lebanese prime minister said that the current Lebanese regime aims at asserting Lebanese unity and establishing a firm, well-balanced and sound army to rebuild the homeland and maintain stability in Lebanon.

The Lebanese prime minister asserted that the Lebanese Government considers Sa'd Haddan to be an extension of Israel in the Lebanese territories and that the Lebanese Government's attitude toward him is similar to its stand against Israeli forces entering Lebanese territory.

Gulf Island Inhabitants

JN251205 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1040 GMT 25 Jan 81

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 25 Jan (INA)--The inhabitants of the Greater and Lesser Tunb Islands have called upon the heads of the Islamic states to back their rights and immediately intervene to return their occupied islands to the motherland--Ra's al-Khaymah in the UAE.

In a cable they sent to King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz of Saudi Arabia and the heads of the Islamic states taking part in the third Islamic Conference summit, which will begin its work in Mecca today, the island inhabitants said Iranian invasion forces expelled them from their homes by armed force in 1971.

The inhabitants also said that, in occupying their islands, the Iranian invasion forces used all kinds of heavy weapons, including Phantoms, destroyers, military hovercraft and infantry.

The island inhabitants said that their rights are still being usurped despite the change of regimes in Iran following the overthrow of the shah. They said that when they demanded the return of the islands to the motherland, the UAE, they heard from the new rulers in Tehran the same words and claims uttered by the shah. The purpose of all this, they added, is to cover up savage aggression and ugly occupation.

Head of Islamic Bank

GF252014 Riyadh Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 25 Jan 81

[Text] The head of the Islamic Development Bank, Dr Ahmad Muhammad 'Ali, stressed that the bank will play a major role in implementing the results of the third Islamic Conference summit in the field of economic and financial cooperation. Dr 'Ali added that any cooperation between the Islamic states will strengthen these countries and help them confront the industrial states which dominate the international economy and trade.

Dr 'Ali noted that the Islamic Bank is one of the important institutions established by the Islamic states to achieve their goals through cooperation with one another in the field of international economy. Dr 'Ali expressed optimism over the results of the Islamic Conference summit which will greatly influence the future of the Islamic nation and its ability to face future problems.

On the proposed formation of an Islamic common market, the head of the Islamic Development Bank explained: In order to establish such a market we must first reinforce cooperation among the Islamic countries so that they can move toward a wider range of integration.

Dr 'Ali noted that there are certain funds in the Islamic Development Bank allocated for aiding Islamic societies affected by disasters. The bank has initiated aid operations to help Muslim refugees such as the establishment in southern Sudan serving refugees from southern Uganda. Dr 'Ali added that the bank has also carried out operations to help Afghan refugees in Pakistan, refugees in Ogadin in Somalia and Muslims in Cambodia in addition to aid from the [name indistinct] organization in Malaysia.

Dr Ahmad Muhammad 'Ali said that the bank cares a great deal about countries of Africa when implementing its projects. Thus the bank financed a number of agricultural projects in Niger and provided help in importing many of the essential materials necessary for agriculture such as manure and chemicals.

Saudi Foreign Minister

LD252038 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1815 GMT 25 Jan 81

[Excerpts] At-Ta'if, 25 Jan (SPA)--Sa'ud al-Faywal, foreign minister, has delcared that the third Islamic Conference summit in Mecca, which is being held at an important stage in the history of the Arab nation, will outline the details of the path and the basis and foundations for a new surge in joint Islamic action.

In a television interview carried out by the Saudi television service this evening, his royal highness said that there are parts of the Islamic world such as Palestine and Afghanistan which are under occupation, and he stressed the need for joint Islamic action and the rallying of Muslims to confront the challenges threatening them.

The foreign minister stressed that Jerusalem was the rallying cry of the Muslims and their prime cause was still to draft the framework of the strategy to liberate it from Zionist occupation.

His royal highness expressed his confidence that in the event that the third Islamic Conference summit in Mecca approves the document concerning the liberation of the holy city, which was drawn up by the Jerusalem Committee under the chairmanship of the king of Morocco. This is bound to realize the aims of the Islamic nation for the liberation of Jerusalem and restoring it to Arab sovereignty. He said that the Islamic states are looking forward to the liberation of Jerusalem and to restoring it to Arab sovereignty so as to ensure the interest of the Arab and Islamic peoples. His royal highness called on the international community to react with the Islamic nation to solve this sacred cause.

His Royal Highness Sa'ud al-Faysal called for ridding Afghanistan of foreign occupation and influence especially if such influence is from a major power. He said that being a major power this state does not have rights so much as duties toward the world's small states. His royal highness wondered how Afghanistan could threaten the security of the Soviet Union as Moscow claims when it says that it would not accept a regime there in Kabul threatening its security.

He said that this argument would restore colonialism to all states, because the argument about security at the level of geographical borders was endless, especially if it was remembered that weapons in space threaten the security, stability and peace of the states of the world, including the major powers.

His royal highness replied to a question about the security of the Islamic states and the formation of a backup force befitting the nuclear era we are living in. He said that the Islamic states are not seeking to form a military bloc opposed to the North Atlantic Treaty Alliance or the Warsaw Pact or any other, but that they are seeking the opposite of this--disarmament, halting the arms race, preventing the proliferation of nuclear weapons in all parts of the world, reducing this, and even removing it from existence. His royal highness explained that maintaining the independence and security of the Islamic states comes through unified action and the protection of the Islamic states against tyranny, occupation and the unification of their position on the international arena.

His royal highness the foreign minister described what the Western information media call the Islamic bomb as a tendentious Zionist campaign with the purpose of causing distortions and creating illusions by scaring the international community with Islam.

The foreign minister stressed the need to confront Zionist and communist attempts to distort the picture of Islam and Muslims. He said organized Islamic information is bound to project a true picture of Islam and Muslims by organized and effective Islamic information. His royal highness expressed his optimism about Islamic solidarity because this solidarity is built on sound bases and an immortal message serving the well-being of the humans regarding this and the other life.

Habib Chatti, secretary general of the Islamic Conference Organization, expressed his optimism about the success of the third Islamic Conference summit in Mecca and about producing good positive results for the well-being of the whole Islamic nation at all political [word indistinct] and social levels.

He also spoke about the question of Afghanistan. He said all Islamic states are committed to demanding the Soviet Union's withdrawal from Afghanistan. He said the various efforts exerted by the Islamic Conference Organization to find a solution to the question of Afghanistan have been met with a hardening of the Soviet posture.

ISLAMIC CONFERENCE SUMMIT OPENS IN MECCA 25 JAN

Television, Radio Coverage

GF251331 [Editorial Report] Riyadh Domestic Television Service in Arabic at 1302 GMT on 25 January links up with the Saudi radio network to begin live coverage of the motorcade of leaders participating in the third Islamic Conference summit arriving in Mecca and approaching the Mecca mosque.

The announcer says that the leaders taking part in the Mecca ceremony include: the king of Jordan; the UAE president; the Indonesian vice president; the presidents of Pakistan, Chad, Gabon, Gambia, Algeria, the Comoro Islands; Djibouti, Senegal, Sudan, Bangladesh, Syria, Somalia, Iraq, Guinea, Mali, Niger and the YAR; the PDRY leader; the sultan of Oman; the amirs of Bahrain, Qatar and Kuwait; King Hassan II of Morocco; the prime ministers of Mauritania, Lebanon, Turkey, Tunisia and Uganda; PLO Chairman 'Arafat; a representative of the Guinea-Bissau Revolutionary Council; the Malaysian deputy prime minister, and a Cameroon minister.

At 1326 GMT King Khalid receives at the entrance of the Mecca mosque the first leader to arrive, the president of the Comoro Islands.

Next is shown the arrival of the Malaysian deputy prime minister, who is received at the entrance to the Mecca mosque by King Khalid and Crown Prince Fahd. At 1330 GMT PDRY leader 'Ali Nasir Muhammad arrives and is then escorted inside the mosque. At 1331 GMT Chadian President Goukouni arrives and is received by King Khalid and other Saudi leaders.

At 1334 GMT the president of Bangladesh arrives followed by the amir of Bahrain, Shaykh 'Isa. At 1338 GMT Somali President Barre is received by King Khalid. At 1344 GMT the representative of Guinea-Bissau arrives. At 1345 GMT the Maldives president arrives, followed by the Gambian president. At 1347 GMT Sudanese President Numayri is received by King Khalid. At 1348 GMT an African leader--not identified by name--arrives. At 1349 GMT the Turkish prime minister enters the mosque. At 1350 GMT the Nigerian prime minister arrives, followed by the Malian president, who is received by King Khalid. At 1351 GMT King Husayn of Jordan arrives. At 1352 GMT Tunisian Prime Minister Mzali arrives. At 1354 GMT the amir of Qatar arrives, followed by the sultan of Oman. At 1355 GMT the Mauritanian Prime Minister arrives.

At 1356 GMT the Senegalese president arrives. At 1357 GMT Pakistani President Ziaul Haq arrives, followed by the president of Djibouti and the amir of Kuwait. Gabonese President Bongo arrives at 1359 GMT, followed by Indonesian Vice President Adam Malik.

At 1401 GMT Lebanese Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan arrives, followed by PLO Executive Committee Chairman 'Arafat. At 1402 GMT YAR President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih arrives and at 1403 GMT the Algerian president arrives, followed by Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad who is accompanied by Syrian Foreign Minister Khaddam.

At 1405 GMT Iraqi President Saddam Husayn arrives. At 1406 GMT King Hassan II of Morocco arrives. UAE President Shaykh Zayid is received by King Khalid at 1408 GMT, and at 1411 GMT the president of Niger arrives.

At 1414 GMT King Khalid enters the mosque and proceeds to his place.

Live coverage continues at 1417 GMT showing the various Muslim leaders sitting on the ground around the perimeter of the courtyard, in the center of which stands the Kab'ah. Only King Khalid is seen sitting on a chair. Saddam Husayn is seen sitting close to 'Arafat.

At 1420 GMT verses from the Koran are read.

King Khalid begins to deliver a brief speech from his chair at 1430 GMT officially announcing the opening of the third Islamic Conference summit. Crown Prince and Deputy Prime Minister Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz begins to deliver a speech on behalf of King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz at 1432 GMT. Fahd concludes his reading of the speech at 1454 GMT.

The announcer then says that the conferees are awaiting the call to evening prayers, expected in a few minutes. King Khalid is seen speaking with 'Arafat and King Hassan II of Morocco, all standing. King Hassan and 'Arafat then proceed to their places and King Khalid sits on his chair--because of a surgical operation he underwent 2 years ago, the announcer says.

Live coverage continues at 1501 GMT with a 4-minute recitation from the Koran. The call to evening prayers is made at 1512 GMT and all the leaders and congregation pray together around the Kab'ah. 'Arafat is seen praying in a sitting position all the time.

From 1530 GMT to 1545 GMT King Khalid leads the traditional tawaf--the walk around the Kab'ah.

At 1546 GMT King Hassan II of Morocco is seen leaving the Kab'ah while the Algerian president is about to enter it. They meet and shake hands. Various leaders continue to go inside the Kab'ah chamber; others talk to each other in various groups. At 1609 GMT the announcer lists the countries and organizations attending the conference, including a Turkish Cypriot delegation, a delegation of the Afghan mujahidin, a delegation of the Philippine Moro Liberation Front, Nigeria as an observer, and others.

The announcer says that the relay was transmitted via satellite. Other radios, including the Qatari, Moroccan, Kuwaiti and Pakistani radios, relayed the Mecca Islamic Conference summit opening ceremony live. The relay ends at 1614 GMT.

King Khalid Speech

LD251936 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1434 GMT 25 Jan 81

[Speech by Saudi King Khalid at opening session of third Islamic Conference summit in Mecca, delivered by Saudi Deputy Prime Minister and Crown Prince Fahd--live]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Thanks be to God and prayers on the most honorable believer, our prophet Muhammad. God's prayers and blessing be upon him. The speech of His Majesty King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz: I deliver it in his name:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate, prayers and peace be upon the best prophet and the final messenger, I thank God who said in the Koran: And hold on you fast to God's bond, together, and do not scatter; remember God's blessing upon you when you were enemies, and He brought your hearts together so that by His blessing you became brothers.

I pray upon and bid peace to the messenger sent by God as a mercy to all beings and who said: Oh people, you all belong to Adam and Adam is of earth the closest to God among you is the most pious; there is no special favor for an Arab over a non-Arab; fearing God is the measure of piety.

Dear brothers, oh Muslims everywhere, peace be upon you and God's mercy and blessing. It is God's granted success for us to begin this sublime meeting on the grounds of God's holy house which God had made a place of [word indistinct] and security for the people. Beseeching God the sublime and able to grant us success in our task for which we meet and which is aimed at the well-being of the Islamic nation and the highness of its rank and the liberation of its lands from every usurper.

Dear brothers, our Islamic nation is today witnessing a blessed awakening which has brought back to every Muslim pride in his religion and heritage and his belonging to Islamic civilization. And if this awakening has expressed itself in manifestations which differ according to the differences of societies, its basic content is based on acceptance of the bankruptcy of imported thoughts and exported ideologies and on the firm conviction that the problems from which Islamic countries suffer will end only with Islamic solutions inspired by the spirit of the truthful shari'ah, and which is in harmony with the needs of the age.

This Islamic awakening is directed against no one and against no particular bloc; rather, it has exploded to eliminate the backwardness which for long centuries (?afflicted) the Islamic world and made it a victim of ideological, political and military invasion.

We declare from this blessed and holy place that the awakening of Islam is no threat to anyone. It is the good tidings of a new society, ensuring for the Muslim his aspirations for an honorable life befitting human dignity and realizing for humanity the security, peace and progress to which it aspires.

Brothers: Our meeting here today at this turning point of our Islamic history is imperative, demanded by this blessed awakening and it is made a duty by what has befallen the lands of the Islamic nation and its sacred Islamic sanctities, by their falling under Zionist settlement and occupation in Jerusalem and Palestine and the occupied Arab territories, and the armed colonialist Soviet invasion of Muslim Afghanistan. It is made imperative by the aspirations of the Islamic nation for a better and more honorable life by which it restores its power and unites its ranks and liberates its territory and sacred sanctities. These (?humanitarian) and noble aspirations call on the leaders of the Islamic nation, its rulers, its clerics and its thinkers to adopt a posture of deep (?thought), deep in contemplation, to diagnose the reasons for the lethargy of the nation and its divisions and pinpoint its weaknesses, its points of strength and to describe the factors for effective treatment of its weakness and effective means for realizing its targets. This is done by intellectual work and collective determination, which respond to and express the motion of life. [applause]

Brethren everywhere: We are all aware that bringing about the objectives of the Islamic nation is not an easy matter. Nor is it convenient. It is not a mission to be achieved between morning and evening. It is not a responsibility that can be confined to one path or another. Such great actions, though involving special responsibility on the Islamic political leadership's shoulders, require that every thinker should contribute from his position and according to his capabilities toward playing the full role, in order to reach the desired objective.

It is the duty of the governments of the Islamic nation. Ulema and thinkers in particular should enlist themselves and muster their capabilities in a world council of Islamic fiqh [understanding and knowledge of all that covers every aspect of religious, political and civil life] that brings them together and unifies their efforts and their ranks, in order that the Islamic nation can find the true Islamic answer to any question placed before it concerning the challenges of this age, drawn from the reality of our Islamic pure shari'ah. If achievement of the objectives of the Islamic nation cannot be done at the speed we wish, this should not weaken our will. The most important thing is that our good march should proceed on the sound path toward realizing the end to which we aspire. If what we aim to achieve is not easy and convenient, this should not lead up to desperation, procrastination and laziness. It should entice us toward serious action, assiduous and collective effort by means of which we can overcome all difficulties which we confront, keeping before us the fact that there will be no stability unless by means of applying the Islamic shari'ah, without which we cannot succeed, and which we take as a guide. [applause]

Brethren: The sound beginning to strength as a nation is embodied in discarding differences and eliminating them in the spirit of Islamic love and fraternity, mutual respect and non-interference in the affairs of others.

Our faith has founded a religion and a shari'ah. It has permitted all means for strength and created the proper environment for progress for pride; for Islam is the religion of strength; the strong believer is better than the weak one. It is also the religion of work; for a working Muslim is better than a worshipping Muslim who does not work. It is the religion of freedom, as man is his own master. There is no servility but before God. Islam is the religion of equality and social justice. There is no difference between the ruler and the ruled, rich and poor, white and black, one race and another: The best of you in the eyes of God is the most pious. It is the religion of equilibrium and moderation, not only as far as the individual's and society's interests are concerned but also as far as the needs of man himself are concerned, be they material or spiritual. From this, Islam has always concerned itself with the building of the Muslim man: body, reaso and spirit. From this (?sprang) Islamic civilization, balanced and integrated, based on the two basic elements for any viable civilization, namely the material and moral elements.

Brothers: The current challenges facing our Islamic nation in the political, economic, social and ideological fields are great and numerous. But the Islamic political leadership can face up to all of these challenges by adherence to Islamic solidarity and by creating the favorable atmosphere for realizing its dictates and concepts and its application.

In this world, where the big powers struggle over the destinies and wealth of the smaller countries, a struggle in which the force of arms has the final word, it behooves us to use this solidarity as a strong shield on which the arrows of the covetous and the usurpers are deflected.

Our loyalty should not be to either the Eastern bloc or the Western bloc, but to God, His prophet and the Islamic masses everywhere in the world.

The hopes of the Muslim nation cannot be achieved by joining military alliances or cowering under the wings of a big power. They can only be achieved through trust in God and in oneself and through equality stemming from a deep-rooted Islamic force which remains even after passing and temporary interests have gone.

Brother Muslims: Adherence to the Islamic faith is not merely an honor. It is an honor which demands from the individual that we perform his duties to his religion, his nation and himself. And all this is enhanced by the feeling of the Muslim individual everywhere that he belongs to one nation of similar climate and behavior with similar thought and judgment and that they all fuse together in one Islamic melting pot and all obtain things from one source and apply common bases in their relations.

Islam is a human unity in which all differences dissolve--be they differences of race or region. In the fact of Islamic principles, all differences of color and language disappear and before all of its sublime ideals crumble all class differences.

Brother Muslims: The tolerant Islamic principles and the human mission of Islam must not be confined to Muslims and their homelands, but they must expand so as to cover all parts of the world, so that the entire human race can enjoy their benefits and great characteristics.

The mission of Islam is a human one. It is a worldwide one. It involves no discrimination. I look forward to the coming years, hoping to see every Muslim individual, every Muslim scientist and thinker and every Muslim leader performing his duty in spreading this immortal mission and spreading knowledge of it.

Science, culture, technology and information media have provided us with all the opportunties and means to convey this message. Then we shall bring back to history one of its glorious eras, crowned with Islamic civilization, where man will live in the shadow of peace, security, right, justice and equality.

Brother Muslims: The might of Islam is the might for good, love and peace. The call for unity of the Islamic nation is one which prompts work and cooperation to proliferate these lofty principles and to realize security, peace and prosperity for the whole of humanity.

Brothers in Islam: Almighty God has honored those responsible for the affairs of this country by making them servants of the two holy mosques. As I understand it, and as every one of the sons of this country understands it, serving the two holy mosques--it being an Islamic duty--extends to serving the faith which the two holy mosques symbolize and the meanings and purposes which they signify. Hence, those responsible for the affairs of this country, and every individual in it, consider themselves servants of Islam and Muslims, wherever they are.

Based on this concept of serving the two holy mosques, the late king, His Majesty 'Abd al-'Aziz, laid down the rules of government in this secure country on the shari'ah of Islam and then contiued his interest in serving the whole Islamic nation and he, may the Lord bless him, on the 10th of Rabi' ath-Thani, 1344 AH 1925 AD, called for the convening of the conference of Islamic nations to discuss its affairs and to consult about what promotes its interests.

Stemming from the same basis the late King Faysal endeavored to call for Islamic solidarity and as a result of this the Islamic Conference Organization and its subsequent establishments were set up. He, may the Lord bless him, struggled for its growth and supported its progress. I, brothers in God, fully realize that the responsibility of serving Islam is the responsibility of all of us, for its fulfillment there must be rallying of efforts and solidarity among all Muslims, rulers and ruled.

Brother Muslims: Parts of the body of the Islamic nation in Palestine, the occupied Arab territories and Afghanistan are groaning under the weight of oppression, tyranny and aggression.

Our sacred sanctities in Jeruslam are being desecrated by occupying usurpers who shed blood and violated the sacred sanctities and left destitute millions of your brethren in God. I address my appeal, from the sacred house of God and near the blessed Kab'ah, and at this blessed meeting of the leaders of the Islamic nation, to unify your ranks and to rally your word and marshal your resources to defend Islam and to support your brethren and to restore their rights. Assuredly, God will help him who helps Him, surely God is omnipotent, almighty. [Koranic verse]

I beseech God to show us the path to good and commonsense. God's peace and mercy and blessings be with you.

SADDAM HUSAYN CONFERS WITH SUMMIT DELEGATES

JN242103 Baghdad INA in Arabic 2030 GMT 24 Jan 81

[Text] At-Ta'if, 24 Jan (INA)--Following his arrival here this evening, President Saddam Husayn began a series of meeting with the kings and presidents participating in the Islamic Conference summit opening tomorrow.

President Saddam Husayn received in his place of residence this evening King Hassan II of Morocco and discussed with him the most important topics on the conference agenda, the latest developments and events in the Arab region and the fraternal relations between the two countries.

The meeting was attended by Tariq 'Aziz, Revolution Command Council [RCC] member and deputy prime minister; Hikmat Ibrahim, RCC member; Dr Sa'dun Hammadi, minister of foreign affairs; and Mohamed Boucetta, Moroccan minister of state in charge of foreign affairs and cooperation.

Later the president received in his place of residence YAR President Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih. During the meeting, the two sides discussed the latest developments of the Iraqi-Iranian dispute and relations between the two fraternal countries, in addition to the most prominent topics on conference agenda.

The meeting was attended by RCC member Tariq 'Aziz, RCC member Hikmat Ibrahim, Foreign Minister Sa'dun Hammadi and YAR Foreign Minister 'Ali Lutfi ath-Thawr.

Habib Chatti Meeting

JN250921 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0740 GMT 25 Jan 81

[Text] At-Ta'if, 25 Jan (INA)--President Saddam Husayn resumed a series of meetings here today with the kings and leaders participating in the third Islamic summit.

President Saddam this morning received Habib Chatti, the secretary general of the Islamic Conference Organization. The two sides discussed major topics on the agenda of the third Islamic summit and steps to consolidate unity and concert efforts to preserve the heritage of the Islamic nation and regain its glory and prominent place in history.

The meeting was attended by Tariq 'Aziz, Revolution Command Council [RCC] member and deputy prime minister; Hikmat Ibrahim, RCC member and Sa'dun Hammadi, foreign minister.

President Saddam met in At-Ta'if yesterday with King Hassan II of Morocco and YAR President Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih.

During these two meetings, topics on the summit agenda, the latest developments and events in the Arab arena and bilateral relations were discussed.

UAE, PLO Leaders

JN251035 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0910 GMT 25 Jan 81

[Text] At-Ta'if, 25 Jan (INA)--President Saddam Husayn received the UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan al-Nuhayyan and the delegation accompanying him at his residence here this morning.

The two leaders reviewed the latest developments in the Iranian-Iraqi dispute, cooperation between the two fraternal countries and major topics on the agenda of the Islamic summit.

In a statement he made to a UAE reporter in At-Ta'if, President Saddam expressed appreciation for the UAE president's stand on Arab issues and his support for the Arab struggle. President Saddam wished the Islamic summit success in achieving unity and upholding the Arab nation's great history.

President Saddam Husayn also met with the PLO's Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat. During the meeting, they held talks on means to consolidate the Arab struggle, the latest developments in the Iraqi-Iranian dispute and major topics on the agenda of the Islamic summit.

The two meetings were attended by Tariq 'Aziz, Revolution Command Council [RCC] member and deputy prime minister, RCC member Hikmat Ibrahim and Foreign Minister Sa'dun Hammadi.

King Husayn Meeting

JN251200 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1130 GMT 25 Jan 81

[Text] At-Ta'if, 25 Jan (INA)--President Saddam Husayn received at his residence in At-Ta'if today His Majesty King Husayn ibn Talal of Jordan.

President Saddam Husayn reviewed with His Majesty King Husayn the developments of Iraq's military stand on the battlefront and the great victories achieved by our valiant army against the Persian enemy.

President Saddam praised the stand of the Jordanian king, people and government in support of Iraq's just struggle to restore its rights to its territory and waters. He added that Jordan's stand should be adopted by all Arabs to regain their usurped rights.

The meeting was attended by Tariq 'Aziz, Iraqi Revolution Command Council [RCC] member and deputy prime minister; Hikmat Ibrahim, RCC member; Mudar Badran, Jordanian prime minister, and Ahmad al-Lawzi, chief of the Royal Hashemite Court.

Saudi, Mauritanian Leaders

JN252154 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 25 Jan 81

[Text] President Saddam Husayn received His Majesty King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz of Saudi Arabia at his residence in At-Ta'if at 2100 today. They reviewed the most important topics on the agenda of the third Islamic Conference summit, ways to bolster the role of the Arab nation and the Islamic states, and general events in the world in the service of human civilization and its progress. The discussion also dealt with relations between the two fraternal countries and the most important events and developments in the Arab world.

The meeting was attended by Tariq 'Aziz, Revolution Command Council member and deputy prime minister; Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, first [as heard] deputy prime minister and commander of the national guard; and Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, Saudi defense and aviation minister.

President Saddam Husayn also received Mauritanian Prime Minister Ahmad Bneijara at his residence in At-Ta'if at 2200 today. Matters related to the third Islamic Conference summit and relations between the two fraternal countries were discussed.

The meeting was attended by Tariq 'Aziz, Revolution Command Council member and deputy prime minister, and Mohamed el Mokhtar Ould Zamel, Mauritanian foreign affairs and cooperation minister.

KING HUSAYN MEETS WITH ARAB LEADERS IN AT-TA'IF

PLO, Bahrain Meetings

JN251425 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 25 Jan 81

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn received at his residence in At-Ta'if today PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat.

They exchanged viewpoints on the Jerusalem issue and the Palestine cause. They agreed to coordinate the PLO and Jordanian stands to serve pan-Arab interests.

His Majesty King Husayn also received the Bahraini amir, His Highness Shaykh Khalifah ibn Salman al-Khalifah, the Qatari amir, His Highness Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad al-Thani, and Omani Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id.

His majesty visited President Saddam Husayn at his place of residence.

Talks of the Arab leaders concentrated on an assessment of the current phase of joint Arab action and the future developments in the Arab world. They also discussed topics on the agenda of the Islamic summit convening in Mecca later today.

The meetings were attended by Prime Minister Mudar Badran and Chief of the Hashemite Court Ahmad al-Lawzi.

King Khalid Meeting

JN252142 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 25 Jan 81

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn received His Majesty Saudi Monarch Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz at his residence in At-Ta'if today. The two kings discussed the importance of the issues to be discussed by the Islamic Conference summit and the need to unify and to strengthen the Islamic stand on all the issues and events facing the Islamic world. They also discussed the close fraternal relations between Jordan and Saudi Arabia.

The meeting was attended by Prime Minister Mudar Badran; Chief of the Royal Court Ahmad al-Lawzi; His Highness Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, Saudi second deputy prime minister and commander of the Royal Guard; and His Highness Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, Saudi minister of defense and aviation.

HAFIZ AL-ASAD HOLDS MEETINGS WITH OTHER DELEGATES

PDRY President

JN241954 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 24 Jan 81

[Excerpt] At-Ta'if--At his place of residence in At-Ta'if, President Hafiz al-Asad this evening met with PDRY President 'Ali Nasir Muhammad. Talks centered on the issues to be raised at the third Islamic Conference summit and the general developments in the Arab homeland.

Lebanese President

JN250728 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 25 Jan 81

[Excerpt] President Hafiz al-Asad met yesterday at his residence in At-Ta'if with Lebanese President Ilyas Sarkis. Talks dealt with issues to be discussed at the third Islamic Conference summit and general developments in the Arab homeland.

Algerian, Tunisian Meetings

JN251438 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 25 Jan 81

[Text] President Hafiz al-Asad today resumed his meetings with the head of delegations to the third Islamic Conference summit.

At 1315 today, the president met with Chadli Bendjedid, president of the Democratic and Popular Republic of Algeria, who was accompanied by Algerian Foreign Minister Mohammad Seddik Ben Yahia.

Discussions dealt with coordination of the Syrian and Algerian stands and all issues pertaining to the summit conference.

The president this morning met with Bahraini Amir His Highness Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah at his place of residence. The meeting was attended by members of the Bahraini delegation.

The president also met this morning at his place of residence with Tunisian Prime Minister Mohamed Mzali, head of the Tunisian delegation to the conference, and members of the Tunisian delegation. He also met with Niger head of state Seyni Kounche.

The meetings were attended by 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister. Discussions centered on issues to be proposed for discussion at the conference.

Yemeni, Saudi Meetings

JN252157 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2115 GMT 25 Jan 81

[Text] At 2200 today a meeting took place at President Hafiz al-Asad's residence between the president, 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, Central Committee secretary general, chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium and chairman of the Council of Ministers in the PDRY; and YAR President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih. The meeting was attended by 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affairs, and the foreign ministers of both Yemens.

Also today President Hafiz al-Asad received at his residence His Majesty King Khalid for an exchange of views on the third Islamic Conference summit.

ZIAUL HAQ MEETS WITH SUMMIT DELEGATES IN AT-TA'IF

Bangladesh President

BK250813 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 25 Jan 81

[Text] Bangladesh President Ziaur Rahman called on President Mohammad Ziaul Haq in At-Ta'if last night. The talks between the two leaders lasted for about 45 minutes. Agha Shahi and Lt Gen K.M. Arif were also present on the occasion.

Later Agha Shahi said that the two leaders exchanged views mostly on the issues of the summit agenda. He said that the two leaders are expected to hold further talks during the summit.

Kurt Waldheim Meeting

BK260820 Karachi Overseas Service in Urdu 0800 GMT 26 Jan 81

[Text] President Mohammad Ziaul Haq had consultations with heads of delegations of several brotherly countries on the agenda of the Islamic summit last night. The president also exchanged views with UN Secretary General Dr Kurt Waldheim on international issues, particularly those confronting the Islamic world due to the Afghanistan crisis.

In addition to this he also had talks concerning the letter sent by Pakistan Foreign Minister Agha Shahi to the UN secretary general requesting him to designate a special UN representative to seek a political settlement of the Afghanistan issue.

YAR PRESIDENT CONFERS WITH KUWAITI, PDRY LEADERS

JN251345 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 25 Jan 81

[Excerpt] Brother President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, commander in chief of the armed forces, visited his brother, Kuwaiti Amir Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad as-Sabah, at 0800 at his residence in At-Ta'if.

Discussions dealt with bilateral relations and the efforts of both sides to make the third Islamic Conference summit succeed.

The brother president leader visited his brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, Central Committee secretary general, chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium and chairman of the Council of Ministers in the southern part of the homeland, at 2000 yesterday at his private continental hotel suite.

Several issues of joint interest were discussed.

QATARI AMIR RECEIVES UAE PRESIDENT IN AT-TA'IF

JN251306 Doha QNA in Arabic 1030 GMT 25 Jan 81

[Text] At-Ta'if, 25 Jan (INA)--The Qatari amir, His Highness Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad Al Thani, received the UAE president, Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan at his residence.

On the Qatari side, the meeting was attended by Shaykh Ahmad ibn Sayf Al Thani, minister of state for foreign affairs; Dr Hassan Kamil, the amir's adviser; 'Isa Ghanim al-Kuwari, minister of information, and 'Abd al-'Aziz ibn Sa'd al-Sa'd, the Qatari ambassador to Saudi Arabia.

On the UAE side the meeting was attended by Shaykh Rashid ibn Ahmad al-Mu'alla, deputy ruler and heir apparent of Umm al-Qaiwayn Emirate; Ahmad Khalifah as-Suwaydi, representative of the prime minister and Rashid 'Abdallah, minister of state for foreign affairs.

This meeting is part of the contacts and consultations held by the Qatari amir with the Arab and Islamic leaders participating in the Islamic summit, which is scheduled to open in Mecca today, to discuss means of consolidating relations between Qatar and other Islamic countries, major topics on the agenda of the Islamic summit and means of unifying the Islamic stand confront the dangers and challenges facing the Islamic world.

The Qatari amir is expected to meet later today with the Bahraini Amir His Highness Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah, Gambian President Dawada Jawara and Mohamed Mzali, the Tunisian prime minister and head of the Tunisian delegation to the Islamic summit.

BAHRAIN

PAPER SEES IRAN AS LOSER IN HOSTAGE ISSUE

GF242027 Manama AKHBAR AL-KHALIJ in Arabic 22 Jan 81 pp 1, 7

[Editorial by editor in chief Ahmad Kamal: "Iran After the Hostages"]

[Text] If we examine all the figures and balance sheets, we find that the Islamic Republic of Iran is the greatest loser in the American hostage issue and that the United States has not lost anything. The agreement concluded between Iran and the United States--"the archsatan" as the Iranian Government calls it--provides only for the return of the Iranian assets frozen following the taking of the hostages. Had it not been for the taking of the hostages the assets would not have been frozen. Throughout the 14 months the hostages were detained, the Iranian Government had a long list of conditions which shrunk to four and finally Iran was demanding only the unfreezing of the assets.

We do not wish to discuss in detail what Iran lost from this operation and what the United States lost. The United States enjoyed wide international support in most of its measures. Many countries went along with it when it imposed a diplomatic, economic and military blockade on Iran. Moreover, Iran gave the great powers the pretext to mass their fleets in the Gulf, threaten its security and find an easy way to interfere at any time and in any part of the once-calm Gulf. Furthermore, Iran provoked many of its enemies and many friends moved to the other side, while the 52 hostages gained the world's sympathy.

Iran said that the hostages were spies and that it would put them on trial and that documents and evidence were found in the U.S. Embassy incriminating various U.S. Governments and exposing U.S. interference, deception, treachery... to the end of the list of abuses that were ascribed to the United States. Where are those documents now? Has the ink with which they were written been erased? Why didn't Iran announce them so that liberation movements in the world and the countries of the Third World would, as Iran said, benefit from them, and so that everyone would know, as the documents showed, what U.S. intentions toward them were. Has everything evaporated and vanished so quickly?

By taking the hostages on 4 November 1979, Iran brought about much damage and much material loss, not only for itself, but also for the whole area. Nevertheless, as we said we do not want to go in detail in discussing the losses resulting from the taking of the hostages, but we would like to talk to Iran about the post-hostage period--Iran which signed an agreement that wiped away all its intransigent stands toward the United States, the archsatan.

If Iran wants to turn over a new leaf in its relations with the United States or any other country, that is its own affair, the affair of its leadership and people, and no one has the right to interfere in its internal affairs or international relations. But we would like to discuss with it our affairs, the affairs of the Gulf where all of us have been living for millions [as published] of years.

By freeing the hostages Iran has ended a nightmare--a nightmare that troubled the Iranian people for a long time and caused a great deal of internal conflict and chaos in Iran's internal and external relations. There is a great deal that Iran has to do to put an end to its other nightmare, become a principal factor for security and stability in this part of the world, and provide the minimum level of a dignified life for its people. Iran must recognize the legitimate rights of Iraq, the Arab country on Shatt al-'Arab, and its full sovereignty over its historic borders. It must respond to the numerous offers made by Iraqi leaders to end this destructive war, negotiate and halt this conflict.

Iran must return the islands of Abu Musa and the Greater and Lesser Tunbs, which were usurped by the shah from their legal owners. It should proclaim their return to the UAE and thus end a long era of occupation, confirm its good intentions and redress the harm caused by the shah to Iran's relations with its neighbors.

The least the Gulf countries expected from Iran's Islamic Revolution was, as a demonstration of its good intentions toward its neighbors, an end to the occupation of the islands. And some Iranian leaders had said, if we return these islands to their owners, they will become a base for the archsatan. What is the excuse of these leaders now, now that they have made peace with this satan?

Iran must forget about "the export of revolution"--a term which we do not know where the Iranian leaders found it and on what historical experience it was based. Revolutions are not exported, for a revolution in any country is made by the people of that country according to the country's requirements and conditions.

Iran must silence the mercenary voices attacking everyone from its radios, accusing everyone of infidelity and abusing everyone, particularly Iran's neighbors who welcomed the Islamic revolution which came to power in an exemplary manner only to have its achievements, values and goals destroyed by the very leaders of this revolution. Iran must desist from intrigue, incitement and destruction.

Iran must join the Islamic procession and join the Islamic summit that is being convened in the holiest spot on earth and believe in Islam in a realistic and true manner. This is the Islam that urges fraternity, amity and unity and the discarding of enmity and hatred. Iran must work for the good of Muslims everywhere and extend its hand to its brothers instead of abusing and vilifying them. These brothers are now meeting to save Islamic sanctities from the Zionist enemy and are drawing up solutions to implement such a salvage--a much more effective action than replacing the Israeli Embassy in Tehran by a PLO office and replacing the Israeli flag with the Palestinian flag.

Iran must prove its good intentions to its neighbors and coreligionists and be a supporting factor in preserving security in the Gulf. The way to show good intentions is paved and simple. Iran must establish justice among its peoples so that they will be a strong factor in its stability and enable it to build. Instead of killing Arabs in Al-Muhammarah, Kurds, Turkomens and Baluchis it should understand their legitimate rights and demands and discard the abhorrent racism that is totally unrelated to tolerant Islam.

These are the many and heavy nightmares that burden the Muslim Iranian people--much heavier than the now-gone nightmare of the hostages--a people who suffered a great deal during the shah's rule.

KUWAIT

PAPERS COMMENT ON HOSTAGES AGREEMENT, U.S. POLICY

LD231314 Kuwait KUNA in English 1025 GMT 23 Jan 81

[From the press review]

[Text] Kuwait, 23 Jan (KUNA)--AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM on the hostages agreement:

"It seems that the issue of the American hostages, in spite of their release, is liable to turn into a crisis of a new kind. The Algerian-mediated agreement may lead to financial and political bargaining between the United States and Iran which will inevitably have negative impacts on the Gulf region.

"Washington, apart from its declared strict foreign policy, knows quite well what it means to lose Iran altogether under current circumstances when Arab-American relations have reached a low ebb. This deterioration was the result of the anti-Arab campaign launched during the terms of the last two American presidents. Reagan's administration, in spite of the too much talked about maltreatment of the hostages by the Iranians, is trying to calm down internal feelings. This is obvious in its decision to tarry in implementing clauses of the agreement until a certain formula is reached to settle the Iraqi-Iranian war.

"The Reagan administration, similar to those of the predecessors, has no immediate solution for problems of the Gulf region nor those of the Middle East. Thus, it will wait for the suitable time to come in order to present new solutions that will enable America to exploit the hostages issue and related agreements to lay down new bridges with Iran, as the latter is the most valuable party in confronting any other party in the oil-rich Gulf region.

"Accordingly, all American declarations, accepting the Algerian agreement of rejecting it, togethter with maltreatment of the hostages, fall within the joined [as received] scenario called the "hostages crisis". This scenario will continue until Reagan puts the White House in order and gets acquainted with all matters and their strategic aspects in a way which serves American interests in the first place."

ARAB TIMES on the same subject:

"The outgoing administration of Jimmy Carter agreed not only to unfreeze Iranian assets worth over dollars 10 billion but also to transfer it to an escrow account until any legal claims against it are settled. As for cash flow to Iran, the immediate benefit is of about dollars two billion.

"To that extent, the affair sounds fair enough. The snub is in Carter agreeing to freeze the assets of the late shah. Surprisingly, this very un-American act has drawn little fire from the international media. The whole hostage affair started because the United States, quite rightly, refused to close its doors to a shah who needed medical treatment. "Washington gave (?the impression) to its allies, however, that when the chips are down, America would not be around, perhaps. This was the only negative result that America achieved by insulting a former ally and close friend. On top of it, to add injury to insult, Carter agreed to freeze the shah's assets.

"We are not trying here to defend the shah or the manner in which he acquired his wealth. Nor are we trying to say that the wealth should not be returned to Iran. All we are pointing out is that America sacrificed a cardinal point of principle in trying to please an adversary who had never shown any consideration to its (?stooping) gestures.

"Former President Carter lost a good deal of international trust by freezing Iranian assets. He rounded off the act by freezing the shah's assets too. Carter could as well have removed the words "in God we trust" from the currency of his country.

PAPER PROPOSES 'UNIFIED FRONT' TO DEAL WITH U.S.

LD251156 Kuwait KUNA in English 1103 GMT 25 Jan 81

[Quotation marks as received]

[Excerpt] Kuwait, 25 Jan (JUNA)--Extracts from Kuwaiti editorials Sunday:

AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM on the Islamic summit conference:

"Today, the Islamic leaders meet in Mecca to discuss a heavy agenda which, if achieved, will lead to a change in their status in the world arena. In fact, our (?major) Islamic and Arab problem lies primarily with the United States, and then follows our second problem with the Soviet Union that has military troops in Afghanistan. Islamic leaders (?while discussing) both issues should not deal with those two superpowers on equal footing.

"Although we appreciate the condemnation of the U.S. policy issued by the Arab foreign ministers, those written words cannot restore our usurped legal rights. Arabs should realize that mere words against the U.S. would lead to nothing unless they are translated into action. Then, all parties would fear and respect the Arab stance and realize that they are playing a dangerous game. Not until then would Israel's policy towards the Middle East change and Iran would be convinced that the occupation of any Iraqi or Arab land is impossible.

"While meeting shortly after Reagan has been sworn in as the U.S. president", Islamic leaders are called upon to direct a concise message to the new administration listing Arab conditions for relations between the two parties. But, Arab countries must live up to these conditions by formulating a serious plan that will put their military, oil and material potential at the disposal of one unified front which will affirm to our enemies that there is no retraction after the Mecca summit."

QATAR

AR-RAYAH URGES NEW U.S. POLICY TOWARD ARABS

GF241744 Doha AR-RAYAH In Arabic 22 Jan 81 p 1

[Editorial: "Reagan and the New U.S. Policy"]

[Text] U.S. President Reagan officially assumed office 2 days ago. Reagan began his presidency with a call for world peace. However, he called for achieving this peace by force. Hence the contradiction between the two concepts: Peace cannot be achieved by force, because this means it is necessary to resort to war to achieve it. This is a claim that has been made by all those who waged wars throughout history. Those who have shed blood used to say that they did so for the sake of peace. In the name of peace millions died during World War II. All belligerents say they are fighting for peace, including the Nazis and fascists who violated all sanctities, shirked their humanitarian duties, and did not respect any law or principle.

Mankind can achieve peace only through respect for the laws and principles that protect human rights everywhere.

If we refer to history we find the term "Pax Romana"--a peace based on one concept: that Rome should control the world by force and establish peace through this force. This meant that Rome had to impose its hegemony over the whole world and impose the order it desired. Rome at the time was the "world policeman" imposing its views and wishes by force. Does the United States want a "pax American" like this Pax Romana? Pax Romana was clearly imperialism imposed on the peoples of the world. An American peace imposed by force would also be imperialism.

We Arabs believe that the correct path to peace is through recognition of international laws and respect for human rights. Strangely enough, the Arab mind in general has a clear and deep inclination to have an understanding with the West, and above all with the United States, and does not want a clash or a violent conflict in this regard. This is because the difference in ideology between the Arabs--both Muslims and Christians--and the Eastern bloc brings about an isolation that is difficult to eliminate, penetrate or ignore. This idea has not been properly echoed in the West so far, thus causing some bitterness among the Arabs.

The United States must recognize the Arabs' legitimate rights, foremost among which are the Palestinian people's rights. The United States should recognize the PLO as the Palestinian people's sole legitimate representative. The United States should realize that its interests in the Arab world are great and important, and consequently it should have sound relations with the Arab world based on correct understanding in political, military, economic and cultural spheres.

The United States should respect the sovereignty of every part of all the countries of the Arab world. It should not seek to impose political faits accomplish on the Arabs that totally conflict with their interests. The United States is above all seeking to impose on the Arab world the Zionist occupation of Arab territories--an occupation which, like others, is based on aggression and injustice, an occupation that refuses to recognize any law, principle or constraint or respect the legitimate rights of the Arabs.

With the beginning of President Reagan's administration let us expect a new U.S. policy that achieves peace through justice and not by force, recognizes the Palestinian people's legitimate rights, and puts end to Israeli bullying in occupied Palestine and southern Lebanon. These are our hopes. We hope they will be fulfilled so that the United States can change its image in the Arab world. But if U.S. policy should continue along the same old lines, then this would be a political ordeal that would have serious consequences and harmful results for everyone, above all the United States.

GULF STATES URGE U.S. NOT TO GIVE ARMS TO IRAN

JN241528 Doha QNA in Arabic 1410 GMT 24 Jan 81

[Text] Beirut, 24 Jan (QNA)--Citing Arab diplomatic sources, AN-NAHAR AL-'ARABI WA AD-DUWALI magazine said that intensive contacts were held among the Gulf capitals, Riyadh and Baghdad to reach a unified stand on U.S.-Iranian relations after the release of the U.S. hostages.

In next Monday's issue, the magazine says that these capitals agreed to contact the new U.S. administration and inform it that resuming arms supplies to Iran will not harm only Iraq, but also all the capitals overlooking the Gulf. It elaborated by saying that resuming U.S. supplies, even if this is carried out withing the framework of old agreements, will upset the region's military balance and restore to Iran its role as the Gulf policeman, a situation rejected by the states, which presumably enjoy good political relations with the United States.

According to the magazine, these sources expressed their conviction that the Arab contact of the U.S. administration will achieve success, though partial, by defining the kinds of weapons that can be handed over to Iran to the exclusion of air force planes and spare parts.

The magazine said that the Gulf states reiterate their call on the U.S. administration not to supply arms to Iran because such an act would encourage the Soviet Union to intervene in the Gulf region.

The magazine, citing these sources, added that U.S. President Reagan's advisers refused to abide by the Arab demand. However, they said that they would study this matter with great care and will not act in this regard except within the framework of safeguarding U.S. interests as well as the interests of its friends in the region.

In another news report, the magazine said that Iraq has been promised by Spain continued deliveries of arms, ammunition and spare parts in accordance with an agreement signed between the two countries before the eruption of the Iraqi-Iranian war. It added that this subject was the focus of talks between Spanish Prime Minister Suarez and Iraqi Vice Preisdent 'Izzat Ibrahim during the latter's visit to Madrid in the middle of this month. The magazine added that Iraq promised to supply Spain with all its needs of oil at the current price.

It also said that Iraq had asked Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and the UAE to satisfy Spain's needs for foil under the same terms if Iraq cannot do so due to its war with Iran.

ITALIAN FOREIGN MINISTER COLOMBO VISITS 24-26 JAN

24 Jan Arrival

NC242144 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 24 Jan 81

[Text] Italian Foreign Minister Emilio Colombo arrived in Cairo this evening on a 3-day visit to Egypt. He was welcomed on arrival by Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali and the Italian ambassador in Cairo.

Kamal Hasan 'Ali delivered a speech expressing pleasure over the Italian foreign minister's visit. He said he was looking foward to the talks that will begin tomorrow to discuss the European initiative, historic Egyptian-Italian relations and ways of strengthening them on all levels.

The Italian foreign minister stated that his talks in Cairo would be aimed at strengthening bilateral relations, and he praised Egypt's role in Africa. He said that his talks would undoubtedly deal with the European initiative, and that the EEC chairman would visit Cairo in this connection.

The talks between Kamal Hasan 'Ali and the Italian foreign minister will begin at noon tomorrow and will focus on international issues of mutual interest, developments in the Middle East, the role that Europe can play in giving momentum to the peace efforts, and ways of strengthening bilateral relations.

25 Jan Talks

NC251623 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1320 GMT 25 Jan 81

[Excerpts] Cairo, 25 Jan (MENA)--Egyptian-Italian talks officially opened at the Foreign Ministry today. Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali led the Egyptian side and Foreign Minister Dr Emilio Colombo led the Italian side. Kamal Hasan 'Ali and Dr Colombo started with a 15-minute private meeting, after which both delegations joined them.

Answering a question after the talks on whether he and 'Ali had discussed stopping the supply of Italian weapons to Libya, the Italian foreign minister said: We do not give arms to Libya and I have not discussed this matter with Kamal Hasan 'Ali. However, we discussed the problem of Libya's relationship with Chad.

Answering another question on Europe's role in the Chadian problem, Colombo said: We believe it is an African problem and that it can be solved through the OAU. We support all people's right to self-determination.

Asked about Italy's role in the Middle East problem, the Italian foreign minister said: Italy's role is positive and active. We were the chairman of the European Community when the Venice declaration was issued. We attach great importance to cooperation in promoting the peace efforts by submitting ideas.

Concerning PLO participation in the negotiations, Colombo said that the Venice declaration stressed that the PLO must participate in drafting the final resolutions.

MENA Interview

NC251139 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1015 GMT 25 Jan 81

[Excerpts] Cairo, 25 Jan (MENA)--In a special interview granted to MENA's diplomatic correspondent, Italian Foreign Minister Emilio Colombo stressed the historical importance of President Anwar as-Sadat's peace initiative of 1977, adding that this initiative is an important step in the peace process.

The Italian foreign minister dealt with the importance of Italian-Egyptian relations in the Mediterranean area, saying that relations between the two countries are distinguished by mutual friendship, understanding and cooperation in various spheres. He added that these relations are firm and unchangeable with regard to the Mediterranean area and that Italy has the highest esteem for the enormous achievements carried out by President Anwar as-Sadat and the Egyptian people in the economic and social sectors as well as the food security projects [which have been devised] for the sake of the Fgyptian peoples' welfare.

The Italian foreign minister added that President Anwar as-Sadat's 1977 peace initiative to Jerusalem had a historical importance and a special significance. He added that all the other parties in the area should adopt a selfless and farsighted stance akin to Egypt's--particularly after Egypt has achieved what Italy considers to be important steps along the road to peace.

On Europe's role concerning the Middle East problem, the Italian foreign minister said his country is very keen on implementing the European working program, the 'European initiative', because of Italy's responsibilities and its desire to contribute to the embodiment of the Venice statement's principles of 12 June 1980. This statement stipulates the importance of guaranteeing security to everyone--including the Arab countries and Israel as well as achieving justice for all the people in the area and the recognition of the Palestinian people's legal rights.

'Ali Press Conference

NC251603 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1310 GMT 25 Jan 81

[Excerpts] Cairo, 25 Jan (MENA)--Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali has stated that the current visit by Italian Foreign Minister Emilio Colombo to Egypt is a decisive step in the development of Egyptian-Italian relations.

At a press conference today, 'Ali praised the role that Colombo played as president of the European Parliament in issuing the Venice declaration on the Middle East. 'Ali said: We are fully aware that Colombo put all his political efforts behind this declaration, a matter that confirms Italy's role as an EEC member as well as its objective outlook on the Middle East problem.

At his press conference, which was attended by the press delegation accompanying the Italian foreign minister, 'Ali added that the European initiative on the Middle East did not substitute for or conflict with the Camp David accord. He added: This is why we have blessed the European Initiative and why we have been looking forward to meeting Emilio Colombo, whom we view as the spiritual father of the Venice declaration.

Referring to the present position among Egypt, Israel and the United States regarding the Middle East problem, 'Ali said: Camp David included two basic elements of agreement: The first concerns Egyptian-Israeli relations and the second concerns full autonomy for the Palestinians.

Concerning the first point, 'Ali said that the Egyptian-Israeli peace agreement was signed on 26 March 1979 and that it had been implemented with respect to the Israeli withdrawal from and liberation of 80 percent of Sinai. He added that both countries fully respected the agreement and that Israel was scheduled to hand over the remaining part of Sinai in April 1982.

The deputy prime minister and foreign minister added: Normalization of economic and political relations between Egypt and Israel are part of this agreement. He said that in this regard, free trade, aviation and sea transport agreements had been signed and submitted to the People's Assembly, although they were actually being implemented on the basis that they were temporary agreements.

Concerning the second part of Camp David relating to autonomy, 'Ali said: The Camp David agreement stipulated that the negotiations on this should start 1 month after signing the Egyptian-Israeli agreement. Indeed, the negotiations started on 26 April 1979 and are still continuing. He added that after 20 months, no tangible progress had been made since the start of the negotiations. He said that the failure to reach an agreement on autonomy was due to several reasons, the main one being the fabricated disagreement [al-ikhtilaf al-muftaj] on reading the provisions of Camp David relating to the jurisdictions and responsibilities of autonomous rule.

'Ali added that another reason was that Israel had adopted unilateral measures that impeded the negotiations. In this regard, he referred to the annexation of Jerusalem, saying that this led to an interruption of the negotiations for some time. He added that all of international society condemned this stand, which led to the withdrawal of 13 embassies from Jerusalem to Tel Aviv.

The third reason, 'Ali said, that led to the failure of an agreement on Palestinian autonomy despite the lapse of 20 months since the negotiations began is that Israel has built settlements on about 40 percent of the territory in the West Bank and the Gaza on the pretext of security.

The deputy prime minister and foreign minister also explained that these settlements helped lead to the intensification of differences between the inhabitants of the West Bank and the Israeli military administration, which culminated in the expulsion of approximately 33 citizens, including some West Bank mayors, and the closure of universities in Hebron and Bi'r Zayt.

'Ali further explained that among the reasons for the lack of progress in the autonomy discussions were the unsound reading of the Camp David agreement and the Israeli Government's belief in annexing land while granting autonomy to its inhabitants.

'Ali said that this was why President as-Sadat asked for a tripartite summit to reread the Camp David provisions on the Palestinian question.

The deputy prime minister and foreign minister pointed out that among the reasons that help up the tripartite summit were the change in the U.S. administration and the anticipated changes in the Israeli Government. He said: There is a possibility of holding bilateral conferences in the spring because the new U.S. Government must be given an opportunity to arrange its papers and study the issue on the basis of Camp David.

'Ali added that the anticipated changes in Israel after the elections, which will take place on 7 July, precluded the likelihood of holding the summit before fall, which gives the European initiative a good opportunity to move during this period.

'Ali went on to note that he expects to meet with the Netherlands foreign minister in his capacity as representative of the 10 EEC members during February and March.

ANSA Departure Report

AU260820 Rome ANSA in English 0805 GMT 26 Jan 81

[Text] Cairo, 26 Jan (ANSA)--Italian Foreign Minister Emilio Colombo winds up a two-day [as received] official visit to Cairo today.

He is to be received by Egyptian head of state Anwar as-Sadat. He will then hold a press conference and head back to Rome in the early afternoon.

Colombo arrived in Cairo on Saturday night when he was received by his Egyptian counterpart Kamal Hasan 'Ali.

On Sunday he had talks with Ali and Foreign Under Secretary [as received] Butrus Ghali. Earlier he was received by Egyptian Vice President Husni Mubarak.

Colombo spoke favorably of the European Economic Community's Mideast peace initiative formulated at the Venice summit last June. He stressed that it was complementary to the 1978 Camp David accords forced by former American President Jimmy Carter, Israel Premier Menachen Begin and Egyptian President Anwar as-Sadat. Colombo said that both Italy and the European "ten" want to see the Camp David accords implemented to the fullest but that even when this came to pass much would still remain to be done. He listed some outstanding problems which go beyond bilateral Egyptian-Israeli relations as Israel's security, the evacuation of all the occupied territories, the status of Jerusalem and Palestinian self-determination.

Talking to newsmen later, Colombo said that he saw reasons for optimism in the fact that Egyptian leaders seemed open to the idea of bilateral consultations between the United States and the Arab nations involved. In other words, they did not consider the Camp David formula sacrosanct and unmodifiable, this left room for an EEC initiative in a broader context.

The Libyan intervention in Chad also came up in the Cairo talks. The government here fears that Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi now has his eyes on Sudan. Egyptians said they would not stand by passively should Libya threaten Sudan.

The Iran-Iraq conflict was also discussed as were bilateral relations between Italy and Egypt.

'ALI CONDEMNS LIBYAN INTERFERENCE IN CHAD

NC251700 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 25 Jan 81

[Excerpts] Talks opened at the Foreign Ministry between Deputy Prime Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali and Italian Foreign Minister Emilio Colombo attended by Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali. The talks dealt with international issues of concern to both countries, Middle East developments and bilateral relations.

Answering a question regarding Egypt's stand on the Libyan interference in Chad, Kamal Hasan 'Ali said:

[Begin recording] Egypt's stand on Libya's intereference in Chad is that we totally condemn any military interference by any African state in any other African state. In addition, the actions by Goukouni's Provisional government are a violation of the first Lagos conference, which stipulates that the forces in Chad should form an alliance to achieve national unity. We have indeed discovered that the Libyan military interference poses a very big danger to Chad's five neighbors. We reject this in general and especially when it affects Sudan.

In July 1977, Libya tried to interfere in Sudan, which is considered Egypt's strategic depth. Egypt did not keep silent about this interference in Sudan. [end recording]

Asked about the European initiative and the PLO's stand, 'Ali said that Europe undoubtedly agreed with Egypt that there must be mutual recognition between the PLO and Israel. He added: Yasir 'Arafat's statement agreeing to the presence of UN forces in the West Bank and Gaza is perhaps an implicit recognition of the possibility of coexistence between the PLO and Israel--a trend Egypt welcomes.

OFFICIAL PLEDGES SUPPORT FOR CHAD INDEPENDENCE

AB251415 Paris AFP in French 1208 GMT 25 Jan 81

[Text] Dakar, 25 January (AFP)--Mr Mahmoud Samir Ahmed, the Egyptian deputy secretary of state for foreign affairs, asserted in Dakar on Sunday that Egypt is prepared, within the framework of the OAU, to support any Chadian nationalist front which would act in the interest of safeguarding the independence of Chad.

In an interview with AFP, Samir Ahmed, who is on an official visit to Senegal, said that Cairo will wholeheartedly support any OAU action in addition to diplomatic pressure which will be used if Libya refuses to respect the decisions taken at the recent Lome summit on Chad.

Egypt, he added, is determined to prevent a renewal of the Chadian phenomenon, that is, the invasion of an African country by Libya, and it assures Niger and Sudan of this determination. Egypt will consider any attack against Sudan as an attack against Egyptian territory, he said.

The Egyptian official said that his country is prepared to give logistical support to a neutral African force which would be sent to Chad.

The Egyptian deputy secretary of state, who described the Libyan intervention in Chad as a good eye opener for African countries, said that the realization of the Libyan danger was reflected in the decisions made at the Lome summit, condemning all foreign intervention in Chad and demanding the withdrawal of Libyan troops.

However, he stressed the difficulties involved in applying the decisions made in Lome concerning holding elections in Chad under OAU auspices at the end of April. It will be impossible, he said, to hold such elections if Libyan troops are still in Chad, adding that the first condition for any election is withdrawing troops and sending a neutral African force to Chad.

Mr Samir Ahmed, who leaves Dakar on Sunday for Bangul, Gambia, has already visited Nigeria, Togo, Gabon, Ivory Coast, Niger, and Upper Volta. He will also visit Sierra Leone.

AL-JUMHURIYAH CLAIMS ABORTIVE COUP IN IRAQ 6 JAN

NC250732 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0610 GMT 25 Jan 81

[From the press review]

[Text] AL-JUMHURIYAH cites informed sources in the Iraqi capital as saying that a new coup attempt against the Ba'thist regime in Baghdad took place on 6 January, but the attempt failed due to an error in implementation. The coup attempt was uncovered, and 10 high-ranking commanders participating in it fled.

AL-JUMHURIYAH quotes the same sources as saying that the coup attempt against the Ba'thist regime was going to receive immense popular support, particularly since the Iraqi Armed Forces stationed on the front are suffering from Iranian counterattacks and the cold winter on the Iraqi-Iranian border, in addition to increasing public discontent with the Ba'thist regime.

PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY DELEGATION RETURNS FROM ISRAEL

NC251636 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1550 GMT 25 Jan 81

[Text] Cairo, 25 Jan (MENA)--The Egyptian People's Assembly delegation led by Muhammad 'Abdallah returned to Cairo this afternoon after a week-long visit to Israel.

Upon his arrival, Muhammad 'Abdallah said that the delegation succeeded in submitting all aspects of the Palestinian question; in stressing that it was the crux of the conflict in the Middle East; and in emphasizing that a permanent and comprehensive peace could not be established without finding a just solution to it.

Muhammad 'Abdallah further said that the meetings with Israeli President Yitzhaq Navon, Prime Minister Menahem Begin, opposition Labor Party Leader Shimon Peres, Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir, former Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan and senior Israeli personalities gave a new chance to expound on Egypt's firm stand--which honors the Camp David agreements, the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty--and to stress that normalization was proceeding steadily.

Muhammad 'Abdallah said that the visit had achieved its purposes in conveying Egyptian views to the Israeli people and the Knesset. He said that the Israeli officials stressed their understanding of Egypt's position and expressed their appreciation of President as-Sadat.

Concluding his statement, 'Abdallah said that the Egyptian delegation had extended an invitation to the Knesset members to visit Egypt.

AS-SADAT ADDRESSES POLICE HIGHER COUNCIL 25 JAN

NC251925 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 25 Jan 81

[Text] President Anwar as-Sadat chaired the Police Higher Council meeting today on the occasion of police day.

President as-Sadat congratulated the Higher Council and the police on police day and praised Egypt's security and stability, which he said do not exist anywhere in the Third World and are admired by the most advanced people in the world.

President as-Sadat referred to the police's efforts to safeguard security and stability, which he said was a great contribution to building Egypt.

President as-Sadat then spoke about the external and internal political situation, the developments expected for the peace cause in 1981, the possible developments in the Arab world and the big powers' strategy regarding them.

President as-Sadat noted that Egypt's foreign policy was clear, firm and established on basic principles; consequently, it will achieve its aims regardless of the changes surrounding Egypt. For this reason, Egypt's decisions in 1981 concentrate on domestic action and on achieving major strides in cultivation, food security, controlling prices and building new societies.

President as-Sadat gave instructions to the police to be prepared to do their duty to serve the people within this framework and to establish themselves in the new housing areas in order to provide the people with service right from the beginning.

As-Sadat approved the expropriation of 1 million pounds for expanding the police hospital, which treats all policemen.

BRIEFS

FOREIGN AID, LOANS--Cairo, 25 Jan (MENA)--Deputy Prime Minister for Economic and Financial Affairs Dr 'Abd ar-Razzaq 'Abd al-Majid announced today that Egypt has obtained a $240 million loan from Britain this year on easy terms. The loan will be used to finance land reclamation, phosphate mining, and technical and medical education projects. He added that during the 20 January international economic conference held in Aswan, Egypt got $3 billion in aid and loans. The conference was attended by high-ranking delegations from Western Europe, the United States, Canada, Japan, the IMF and the World Bank. [Cairo MENA in Arabic 1050 GMT 25 Jan 81 NC]

TAWFIQ CONFERS WITH VISITING ROMANIAN OFFICIAL

JN241100 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1050 GMT 24 Jan 81

[Text] Baghdad, 24 Jan (INA)--Tahir Tawfiq, Revolution Command Council member and minister of industry and minerals, met here today with Ion Nicolae, Romanian first deputy minister in the Ministry of Foreign Trade and International Cooperation. The discussions during the meeting centered on ways to develop bilateral relations in the service of the two friendly peoples' interests.

INDUSTRY MINISTRY RETURNS FROM PRAGUE 23 JAN

JN232138 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 23 Jan 81

[Text] Tahir Tawfiq, Revolution Command Council member and minister of industry and minerals, returned to Baghdad from Prague tonight after heading the Iraqi side to the third session of the Iraqi-Czechoslovak Joint Committee for Economic and Scientific Cooperations.

In a statement to INA, he said that he discussed with Czechoslovak officials way to promote industrial and economic cooperation in the service of the peoples of the two friendly countries. During the 3-day visit, he signed a protocol on bilateral economic and scientific cooperation for 1981.

BAGHDAD: BAKHTIAR URGES IRANIANS TO REVOLT

JN240726 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 0300 GMT 24 Jan 81

[Text] Paris--Former Iranian Prime Minister Shahpur Bakhtiar has said that the Iranian people are suffering an ordeal under the handful of terrorists who assumed power in Iran. He added that never in the history of Iran has such a bloodthirsty and destructive handful of terrorists been witnessed. The former Iranian prime minister urged the Iranian people to rise in revolt against the intransigent ayatollahs' regime.

ARMED FORCES GENERAL COMMAND COMMUNIQUES 225-227

Communique No 225

JN231656 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1625 GMT 23 Jan 81

[Text] Baghdad, 23 Jan (INA)--The victorious Iraqi forces killed 61 of the racist Persian enemy troops last night and today. Communique No 225 issued by the Armed Forces General Command tonight added that our forces also destroyed two enemy tanks, two armored personnel carriers and other equipment. Following is the text of the communique:

Communique No 225 issued by the Armed Forces General Command:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

Our armed forces continue their activities in their operations sectors with capability. Following are the results of our forces' activities last night and today:

I. Known enemy losses:

A. A concentration of charlatan Khomeyni guards was sighted in the Iranian Sheykhan camp opposite Halabjah region. We opened up artillery and mortar fire and forced the enemy to flee, leaving behind 19 dead.

B. Five enemy troops were killed in the Gilan-e Gharb region.

C. An ammunition stockpile was destroyed in the Mehran region.

D. Our advanced units clashed with an enemy patrol that tried to approach our forward positions in the Dezful region, forcing it to retreat after sustaining 10 dead. In addition two vehicles and one rocket launcher were destroyed. Our units also destroyed enemy bridge construction equipment in the same region.

E. Four were killed and two vehicles and one observation post were destroyed in the Shush region.

F. An enemy force tried to approach our positions in the Khafajiyah [Susangerd] region. Our forces confronted it, forcing it to retreat after having lost one tank, two armored personnel carriers, two vehicles and one excavator. Our forces also discovered a quantity of intact munitions left behind by the enemy in previous battles.

G. Our units engaged enemy concentrations and positions in the Abadan region, inflicting the following losses: 23 were killed and 1 tank; 4 vehicles, 1 carrying personnel; 1 gun; 1 excavator; and two enemy infantry positions were destroyed. In addition an oil storage tank was burned in the same region.

Thus, the known enemy losses total: 61 killed; 2 tanks; 2 armored personnel carriers; 10 vehicles, 1 carrying personnel; 1 rocket launcher; 1 gun; 1 ammunition stockpile; 1 observation post; 2 excavators; a quantity of munitions; bridge construction equipment; 2 infantry positions and 1 oil storage tank.

II. Our losses:

A. In personnel: 14 martyrs in all sectors.

B. In equipment: two tanks, one vehicle and one rocket launcher were damaged.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 23 January 1981

Communique No 226

JN241748 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1700 GMT 24 Jan 81

[Communique No 226 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 24 January]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

Our valiant armed forces continue to strike and destroy the magian Persian enemy attempts to attack our positions, inflicting heavy losses in equipment and lives. Following are the results of the military activities last night and today:

I. Known enemy losses:

A. A force of enemy troops and Khomeyni guards tried to attack our positions from two directions in the Iranian (Nowsud) region opposite Halabjah. Our forces confronted it bravely with all sorts of weapons, forcing it to retreat after 113 of its troops were killed. Our units in the same region also opened fire on an enemy troops assembly point near our positions, using artillery and mortars. The enemy was forced to flee, leaving behind 22 dead.

B. One vehicle was destroyed in the Sar-e Pol-e Zahab region.

C. Six were killed in the Gilan-e Gharb region.

D. Five were killed in the Mehran region.

E. Four were killed and two vehicles, four ammunition stockpiles and one observation post were destroyed in the Dezful region.

F. 10 were killed and 1 tank, 2 vehicles and 1 gun were destroyed in the Shush region.

G. Our units engaged the enemy armor, vehicles and positions in the Khafajiyah [Susangerd] region, destroying two tanks, one armored personnel carrier, three vehicles carrying personnel and two rocket launchers.

Y. One vehicle was destroyed inthe Ahvaz region.

I. Our units opened fire on enemy positions in the Abadan region, inflicting the following losses: Nine were killed and two tanks and six vehicles, two carrying personnel and two ammunition, were destroyed. In addition two ammunition stockpiles were destroyed and a boat sunk in Al-Faw.

J. Last night our naval forces destroyed and sank two small and one medium sea targets when they tried to approach our coast at the head of Bisheh, north of the Arab Gulf.

Thus, the known enemy losses total: 169 dead; 5 tanks; 1 armored personnel carrier; 15 vehicles, 5 carrying personnel and 2 ammunition; 1 gun; 6 ammunition stockpiles; 2 rocket launchers; 1 observation post; and 1 boat. In addition two small and one medium sea targets were destroyed and sunk.

II. Our loses:

A. In personnel: 28 Martyrs in all sectors.

B. In equipment: Two personnel carriers, four vehicles and five mortars were damaged.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 24 January 1981

Communique No 227

JN251729 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1708 GMT 25 Jan 81

[Communique No 227 issued by Iraqi Armed Forces General Command on 25 January]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

Our valiant armed forces continued their activities in the operational sectors, inflicting heavy losses in lives and equipment on the forces of the ignorant racist Persians. The outcome of their activities last night and today was as follows:

I. Known enemy losses:

A. Our units engaged enemy personnel and vehicles in the Iranian (Nowsod) area with artillery and mortars, killing 65 and destroying 5 vehicles and 2 guns.

B. An enemy personnel concentration was sighted near our positions in the Gilan-e Gharb area. It was engaged with artillery and light weapons and forced to flee, leaving behind 22 dead. One enemy vehicle was destroyed in the same area.

C. Two dead in Mehran area.

D. An enemy force tried to approach our units in the Dezful area. Our forces engaged it with various weapons and forced it to flee, leaving behind 30 dead. One position was destroyed and two piles of hardware were blown up and burned in the same area.

E. Our units engaged with various weapons an enemy patrol and positions in Shush area, inflicting the following losses: 14 dead; 1 tank; 5 vehicles, 1 loaded with hardware; and 1 gun destroyed.

F. One tank and four vehicles, one loaded with hardware, were destroyed in the Khafajiyah [Susangerd] area.

G. One excavator was destroyed in the Ahvaz area.

H. Our units engaged enemy positions and personnel concentrations in the Abadan area, killing 34 and destroying 9 vehicles, 1 gun, 2 excavators and 3 piles of hardware.

Thus, total known enemy losses: 107 dead; 2 tanks; 24 vehicles, 2 loaded with hardware; 5 guns of various calibers; 3 excavators; and 5 piles of hardware.

II. Our losses: Two vehicles, one gun and one excavator damaged.

[Signed] Armed Forces General Command, 25 January 1981

BAGHDAD: KURDISH REGION SUPPORTS SADDAM, ARMY

GF231312 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 23 Jan 81

[Excerpt] The masses and clergy in Irbil Governorate have reaffirmed their pledge to continue their vigilance in the face of anyone who seeks to harm the homeland and revolution. In a message to President Saddam Husayn, at the end of a grand religious ceremony held by Irbil Awqaf Department in the Shaykh Abu Bakr mosque on the anniversary of the prophet's birthday, they blessed the victories scored by our triumphant army, the soldiers of Saddam's Al-Qadisiyah, against the remnants of the racist Persian enemy.

The ceremony was attended by Ahmad 'Abd al-Qadir, president of the Executive Assembly [in the Kurdish autonomous region], and Muhammad Amin Muhammad Ahmad, acting president of the Executive Assembly. Speaking at the ceremony, the secretary general of the Awqaf Department in the autonomous region reviewed the prophet's life. The governor of Arbil, Yahya Muhammad Rashid, paid homage to this anniversary and compared it with the victories being achieved by the heroes of the 20th century, in which the descendants of Sa'd, Saladin and Khalid have renewed the epics forged by their forefathers, inspired by the prophet, the spirit of Islam and the heroism of early Muslims in the defense of justice and their beliefs.

The congregation denounced the clique in control of Iran and its hostility toward religion and Islam.

SARKIS, DELEGATION DEPART FOR ISLAMIC SUMMIT

NC241225 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 24 Jan 81

[Excerpt] At 1305 today President Ilyas Sarkis left Beirut international airport for Saudi Arabia at the head of a delegation which includes Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan; Foreign and Expatriates Affairs Minister Fu'ad Butrus; President's Office Director General Carlos Khuri; Prime Minister's Office Secretary General Dr 'Umar Musayki; Presidential Chief of Protocol Ambassador Khalil Haddad; Information Ministry acting Director General Radwan Mawlawi; and Foreign Ministry adviser Samir Mubarak.

In Saudi Arabia the delegation will be joined by Minister of State Joseph Abu Khatir; Lebanese Ambassador to Saudi Arabia Zafir al-Hasan; Lebanese Ambassador to Morocco Dr ' 'Adil Isma'il; Lebanese Ambassador to UAE Mahmud Hammud; and Foreign Ministry Secretary Naji Abu 'Asi. All these had participated in the Islamic foreign minister conference, which made preparations for the Islamic summit.

The main delegation is accompanied by a number of senior officers.

WEAPONS SEIZED FROM UAE SHAYKH AT BEIRUT AIRPORT

NC851241 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 25 Jan 81

[Text] At 2300 on 24 January 1980, the airport security organ confiscated at the Beirut international airport 4 Kalashnikov weapons and 2 revolvers, together with equipment for these weapons. These weapons were confiscated from (Shaykh Saqr Hamad al-Qasimi) of the UAE. (Shaykh al-Qasimi) was accompanied by ('Abdallah Rashid ad-Djari), also of the UAE, and (Charles Yusuf Abu Jawdah), a Lebanese. They were all arrested while (Shaykh Saqr) was about to travel to Sharjah.

(Shay Saqr) and his two companions are now in detention.

Meanwhile, the airport security organ has initiated an investigation of them. This case has been referred to the military general prosecution.

VOICE OF HOPE ANNOUNCES NEW SHORTWAVE STATION

NC261049 [Editorial Report] Marj 'Uyun Lebanon Voice of Hope in Arabic at 0600 GMT on 26 January carried the following announcement:

"As of tomorrow, we shall begin operating our new shortwave radio station. The station has been called Malwk al-Amal--King of Hope. This station will cover clearly the entire hemisphere, and will be heard clearly in Lebanon, Israel, Egypt, Jordan, Iraq, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Syria, Kuwait, the UAE, Iran, Russia, France, Britain, Cyprus, Greece, Turkey and various other European, American and African countries. Moreover, we remind our listerners that modifications will be made in our Arabic programs which we will announce in time. These programs and their times will be extended. The broadcasts of the King of Hope and the Voice of Hope together will continue for 24 hours. Pray with us for the success of the Voice of Hope, the King of Hope, free Lebanon and peace.

"Note: You will find our shortwave outlet a fraction before the Voice of Lebanon. Wait for us at 1400 [1200 GMT] on Wednesday [28 January]. [Word indistinct] and our appreciation and wishes to you for happiness, freedom and peace from your free Lebanon."

AL-ASAD, 'ARAFAT DISCUSS COORDINATION FOR SUMMIT

JN231942 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 23 Jan 81

[Text] Damascus--At 1845 this evening, President Hafiz al-Asad received Yasir 'Arafat, PLO Executive Committee chairman, and Muhammad Ghunaym. Fatah Central Committee member.

Talks centered on the Palestinian cause and coordination between Syria and the PLO at the third Islamic Conference summit.

CHADIAN PRESIDENT STOPS OVER EN ROUTE TO AT-TA'IF

JN232008 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 23 Jan 81

[Text] Damascus--President Hafiz al-Asad received a cable of greetings from Goukouni Oueddei, chairman of the Provisional Government of National Unity in Chad, which he sent before departing Damascus airport following a stopover en route to Saudi Arabia to take part in the Islamic Conference summit. Following is the text of the cable:

As I depart the airport of Damascus, capital city of your fraternal and beautiful country, following the stopover of the Chadian delegation and myself en route to Saudi Arabia to take part in the Islamic Conference summit, it gives me great pleasure to express thanks to you, your government and the fraternal Syrian people personally and on behalf of the Chadian Government and people. We hope that the relations between our countries will continue to develop and to be further promoted.

PROGRESSIVE, GDR FRONTS TALK; VISITORS DEPART

Final Talks

JN241658 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 24 Jan 81

[Text] Damascus--Comrade Muhammad Haydar, Progressive National Front Central Command member, and members of the visiting GDR National Front delegation today reviewed recent political developments in the region and Syria's inalienable and principled stands on the various issues.

Kirchhoff, chairman of the GDR delegation, praised militant President Hafiz al-Asad's wise leadership as well as his struggling stands in both the Arab and international arenas. He also praised Syria's accomplishments under the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party. In addition he invited a delegation of the Progressive National Front Central Command to visit the GDR to become acquainted with the continued development in the GDR as well as with the national front's role in that friendly country.

Departure Statement

JN251435 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 25 Jan 81

[Excerpt] The GDR National Front delegation chaired by Werner Kirchhoff has emphasized the importance of strengthening and developing Syrian-GDR relations and continuing the joint struggle against imperialist, Zionist and reactionary conspiracies.

In a statement on leaving Damascus this morning, Kirchhoff praised the achievements of Syria under the leadership of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party and its secretary general, struggling Comrade Hafiz al-Asad. He wished the Syrian people success and progress.

AL-ASAD CHAIRS PROGRESSIVE NATIONAL FRONT MEETING

JN232142 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2115 GMT 23 Jan 81

[Text] The Progessive National Front Central Command met under President Hafiz al-Asad at 2000 this evening. At the beginning of the meeting, President Hafiz al-Asad referred to the great loss to the Progressive National Front resulting from the martyrdom of the late militant Darwish az-Zuni, Front Central Command member. The president enumerated the martyr's good deeds and his long struggle on the pan-Arab and national levels.

A discussion was then held to review general developments in the area and the outcome of the Islamic foreign ministers conference, held to prepare for the third Islamic Conference summit. The meeting adjourned at 2200.

DAMASCUS: JORDAN HANDS OVER PALESTINIAN TO ISRAEL

JN231343 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 23 Jan 81

[Text] Damascus--The connection between the Jordanian regime and its organs, particularly its intelligence organs, and the Zionist enemy organs and intelligence, the Mossad, is confirmed more and more each day.

In a statement it distributed yesterday, the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine [PFLP] revealed that the Jordanian intelligence organs arrested Palestinian struggler 'Ubayd al-Mun'im Abu 'Amrah and handed him over to the Zionist intelligence organs which, being unable to arrest him, sentenced [as heard] him in absentia to life imprisonment in 1978.

Palestinian struggler Abu 'Amrah assassinated a Zionist official in the occupied Gaza Strip in 1978. The Zionist military and intelligence organs carried out a large-scale search but failed to find and arrest him. When the Zionist authorities intensified their search, struggler Abu 'Amrah was forced to leave the Gaza Strip on foot. He then crossed into Jordan following a tough journey. He had remained stayed in Jordan from that time.

The Jordanian intelligence and authorities refused to renew the residence permit of the struggler's wife without the presence of her husband, who thought he had shelter against the oppression and chase of the Zionists. In 1980 he went to King Husayn's intelligence department, which was impatiently waiting for him. He was arrested and 3 days later, handed over to the Zionist intelligence organs, which carried out the sentence of life imprisonment against struggler Abu 'Amrah.

Thus, new evidence is added to the conspiratorial role played by the Jordanian regime in cooperation with the Zionists to liquidate the Palestinian cause and eliminate its men.

LIBYA

STATEMENT ISSUED ON VISIT OF CHAD'S GOUKOUNI

LD231415 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 23 Jan 81

[Text] A press statement was issued today on the visit Chad President Goukouni Oueddei has paid to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah [SPLAJ]. Here is the text:

Accompanied by an important delegation, President Goukouni Oueddei paid a fraternal and friendly visit to the SPLAJ during which he conducted fraternal talks with brother Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the great 1 September revolution.

The two sides--the Libyan Arab and the Chadian sides--also conducted talks stemming from the depth of friendship and fraternal alliance between the Libyan Arab and Chadian peoples that centered on the Libyan Arab people's backing for their brother Chadian people during the state of rebuilding Chad.

The two sides have agreed to increase economic and technical cooperation and to cooperate in the fields of education and culture.

The situation on the African Continent and in the world was also discussed.

The two sides affirmed their belief in the importance of achieving security, peace and stability in the region and stated their pledge to work for the realization of this goal. They also affirmed their conviction in the policy of good-neighbor relations, mutual respect and noninterference in the internal affairs of other states and their respect for the political choices of the African states. They asserted respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of these states, while at the same time they warn against any interference in the internal affairs of Chad or any conspiracy against the Chad people and their lawful government. They place responsibility on the neighboring states of Chad for any acts of conspiracy or sabotage that originate in these states against the sovereignty and security of Chad. They also affirm that the limited Libyan military presence in Chad is legitimate and its role is restricted to helping the lawful government of Chad in achieving security and stability. It does not constitute any threat to Chad's neighboring states. This question is the concern of the SPLAJ and the Republic of Chad.

The two sides expressed concern over the French military occupation of a number of African states, which constitutes a neocolonialist return to Africa, particularly the concentration of the French forces in Central Africa near Chadian borders. They demand the immediate withdrawal of the French forces from Africa and call upon the heads of African states to join them in demanding the withdrawal of the French forces. They also call for convening a conference of African heads of state to adopt a decision on the withdrawal of French forces from Africa.

On behalf of the people of Chad and the Chadian Government, President Goukouni Oueddei conveyed thanks to brother Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi and to the Libyan people for the courageous stand which the Libyan people have taken towards their brother Chadian people.

President Goukouni Oueddei has extended an invitation to the brother colonel to visit Chad. The brother colonel has accepted this invitation with thanks, and the visit's date will be set later.

AL-QADHDHAFI RECEIVES MESSAGE FROM NDJAMENA CONGRESS

LD250946 Tripoli JANA in English 0840 GMT 25 Jan 81

[Text] Tripoli, 24 Jan (JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY)--Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi received a telegram on the occasion of holding People's Congress in Ndjamena headed by the interior minister, Mahamat Abba Said.

The telegramme expressed the people's support for Colonel al-Qadhdhafi and President Goukouni Oueddei and for the press statement expressing the ambitions and aspirations of the Chadian and Libyan people at the conclusion of talks between the two leaders.

The telegramme conveyed also the wishes of the people's congress for the success of the joint Libyan-Chadian committee entrusted with the promotion of solidarity between the two peoples.

AL-'UBAYDI COMMENTS ON CHAD MERGER, REFERENDUM

LD261053 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 24 Jan 81 CA

[Text] Libyan Foreign Minister [as heard] Mr 'Abd al-'Ati al-'Ubaydi has said that steps have not been taken yet towards his country's merger with Chad. Speaking to reporters at Lusaka International Airport today just before his departure, Mr Ubaydi said the proposed merger with Chad will be implemented after a referendum has been conducted in Chad aimed at determining the will of the people. He said since the joint communique on the merger was signed about 2 weeks ago between the Libyan and Chadian leaders, Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi and Goukouni Oueddei respectively, the steps have not been taken to implement the merger as the general consensus of the people of Chad has not yet been determined.

Mr Ubaydi, who delivered a special message from President al-Qadhdhafi to President Kaunda at State House this morning on the current situation in his country, hoped that the people of Chad will be given the chance of carrying out the decision so that the two countries can work together in unity. He said his country was in support of a referendum in Chad and pledged his country's support for the aspirations of the African people.

MOROCCO REPORTEDLY TO 'COOPERATE' WITH FRANCE

LD261020 Tripoli JANA in English 0804 GMT 26 Jan 81

[Text] Paris, 26 Jan (JANA)--King Hassan of Morocco announced his readiness to cooperate in widescale military operations in Africa should France request it.

The French newspaper "L'HUMANITE" said King Hassan has informed the French authorities of his position, reminding them of his past services to France, USA and Zaire. The paper added that France welcomed the proposal especially as its colonial intervention in Central Africa and elsewhere are being met with African and international condemnation.

Our own correspondent in Paris said that French Premier Barre's visit to Morocco falls within the French effort to recruit its agents to serve its colonial interests in Africa.

SUDANESE FRONT CALLS FOR NUMAYRI'S OVERTHROW

LD241458 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 24 Jan 81

[Text] The Sudanese Socialist Popular Front has called for the overthrow of Numayri's regime since this regime has lost all justification for its existence and continuity. The front said in a statement made public at the end of last week that the overthrow of this bloody, agent, fascist regime is the duty and responsibility of the Sudanese people.

The front stressed that free Sudanese people will not give Numayri's regime the opportunity to follow blindly As-Sadat's regime and make Sudan a province of Egypt.

ARAB CONGRESS RESTRUCTURED IN FINAL SESSION

LD231113 Tripoli AL-FAJR AL-JADID in Arabic 20 Jan 81 p 2

[Unattributed report: "Arab People's Congress Concludes Second Ordinary Session Last Night and Issues Final Statement and Number of Important Resolutions and Documents"]

[Excerpt] The Arab People's Congress last night held the final meetings of its second session. At the meeting members of the Congress Permanent Secretariat were selected. These are the [representatives of] the Libyan General People's Congress, the Algerian FLN, the Syrian Arab Ba'th Party, the International Confederation of Arab Trade Unions [ICATU], the PLO, the Federation of Arab Peasants, the Lebanese Nationalist Movement, the Egyptian Nationalist Movement, the Yemeni Socialist Party [YSP], the Nationalist Movement in the Peninsula and the Gulf and the Polisario.

The congress issued a resolution at this meeting discontinuing the membership of the ruling party in Baghdad from the People's Congress and its Permanent Secretariat while preserving a place in both for the Iraqi people. The congress also denounced the ruling party in Iraq and its policy which does not serve the Arab nation's interests as is evident in its war against the Islamic revolution in Iran and its hostile stands toward the Arab liberation movement represented by the Arab People's Congress.

The congress decided to convene a symposium on political freedoms and charged the Permanent Secretariat to take the necessary steps to this end. It also decided to set up a preparatory committee to prepare for such a symposium.

MOROCCO

FRANCE'S PRIME MINISTER BARRE VISITS 21-25 JAN

MAP Visit Summary

LD231510 Rabat MAP in English 1201 GMT 23 Jan 81

[Text] Marrakech, 23 Jan (MAP)--King Hassan II of Morocco received here Thursday Mr Raymond Barre, French Premier, who is currently on an official visit to Morocco.

The audience was attended by Mr Maati Bouabid, Moroccan premier and minister of justice, Mr Michel Cointat, French minister of foreign trade, Mr Olivier Stirn, secretary of state to the French foreign minister, and Mr Youssef Ben Abbes and Mr Jacques Morizetn respectively Moroccan ambassador to Paris and French ambassador to Rabat.

Afterwards, the sovereign held tete-a-tete talks with the French premier.

At the end of the audience, Mr Barre told newsmen that he evoked with the sovereign a number of international problems that interest both Morocco and France, such as Chad, Africa, the Middle East, and other issues on the agenda.

Later on, Crown Prince Sidi Mohamed presided over a lunch offered by the Moroccan Government in honour of the French Premier and the official delegation accompanying him.

In the morning, Mr Maati Bouabid and Mr Raymond Barre presided over the works of the Moroccan-French enlarged meeting. During this meeting, Mr Bouabid and Mr Barre made reports on their respective countries' internal and external policies as well as on the international political and economic situation, and current international issues.

The two prime ministers equally evoked bilateral relations, and decided that they would be thoroughly examined.

To this effect, four subcommittees for political affairs, economic affairs, financial affairs and social-cultural affairs were created to study dossiers interesting [as received] bilateral cooperation. The sub-committees will submit the results of their works to the heads of delegations during the closing session, scheduled for Saturday morning.

In the afternoon, Mr Raymond Barre left Marrakech for Rabat where he received representatives of the French community living in Morocco.

Later on, Mr Barre offered a dinner in honour of Mr Maati Bouabid. On the other hand, Mrs Barre, who is accompanying her husband during this official visit, is expected this Friday in Fes for a touristic visit. Mrs Barre will visit the historical monuments of the town.

Economic Work Session

LD231526 Rabat MAP in English 1209 GMT 23 Jan 81

[Text] Rabat, 23 Jan (MAP)--Moroccan and French delegations led respectively by Mr Azzeddine Guessous, minister of trade, industry, merchant marine and maritime fisheries, and Mr Michel Cointat, minister of foreign trade, held here Thursday afternoon a work session devoted to examining economic questions of common interest, mainly bilateral cooperation in the fields of trade, industry and transports.

This meeting, which is part of the official visit the French premier is currently undertaking in Morocco, follows the discussions that were held previously by the Moroccan and French prime ministers.

Nuclear Study Agreement

NC241359 Paris AFP in English 1333 GMT 24 Jan 81

[Text] Rabat, 24 Jan (AFP)--Morocco has agreed to have France carry out studies for a possible nuclear powerplant, visiting French Prime Minister Raymond Barre said here today. The studies constitute one energy policy option for Morocco, the others being a search for oil and exploitation of oil shale deposits, French Foreign Trade Minister Michel Cointat added.

Press Conference

LD251956 Rabat MAP in Arabic 0900 GMT 25 Jan 81

[Text] Rabat, 25 Jan (MAP)--The French premier, Raymond Barre, held a press conference here yesterday at the end of his official visit to Morocco, which began on 21 January, in the presence of journalists representing national, French and international information media.

First the French premier confirmed that his talks with officials in Morocco were held in an atmosphere of mutual trust and confidence. He added that his country would spare no efforts in the search for peace in Africa and elsewhere. Raymond Barre also spoke about the current situation in Africa, the Middle East crisis and the importance which France attached to the North-South dialogue, and pointed to the dangers of the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan.

The French premier explained that he had talked to His Majesty King Hassan II about the current international situation and bilateral cooperation, especially in the economic and financial fields. He also pointed out that his country was behind the North-South conference and the Arab-European-African dialogue.

On bilateral relations the French premier gave prominence to the role which France and the French community in Morocco could play in the economic development of Morocco, without ignoring the positive role played by the Moroccan community in the French economic life and praised the measure to be taken by his majesty's government in the interest of the French cooperation workers. In his talk he confirmed the situation of Moroccan workers in France, estimated at 400,000, to the effect that they work in conditions which preserve their dignity and that, in view of the energy crisis, the French Government has taken some measures aimed at limiting immigration by adopting a policy of assisting immigrants and granting them compensation so that they may return to their homeland. Their return should be of their own accord.

He said that the French Government had taken other measures to limit illegal immigration, condemning what he called the slave trade resulting from its immigration. On the prevailing situation in the northwest Africa the French premier said that his country hoped to reach a settlement of the existing problem in the region and that it was willing to make efforts if a request was made. On the role played by France in the achievement of world security, Raymond Barre gave examples which showed that his country cared for the reduction of existing tension in many parts of the world and adhered to detente, a matter which had made it condemn foreign interference in Afghanistan.

Concerning the Middle East the French premier said that his country supported the exercise by the Palestinians of their legitimate rights in order to reach a just and lasting peace. Answering a question on the situation in Africa, Raymond Barre confirmed France's respect for the independence and sovereignty of the African states and maintained that African problems required African solutions, pointing to his country's readiness to cooperate with all African states desiring this.

Concerning the economic situation in Morocco, the French premier said that Morocco had great potential and expressed confidence in future development and added that France could help Morocco in this context.

LE MONDE INTERVIEWS BOUABID ON FRENCH ROLE

LD231101 Paris LE MONDE in French 22 Jan 81 p 8

[Roland Delcour interview with Moroccan Prime Minister Maati Bouabid: "Paris Is in the Vanguard of the West as Regards the Near East and Jerusalem"--date and place not given]

[Text] [Question] On the eve of the At-Ta'if Islamic summit, what is your view of French and European policy on the Near East and Jerusalem?

[Answer] Morocco attaches particular importance to this conference. Since King Hassan II chairs the Jerusalem Committee, we must mobilize to the highest degree as much support as possible for the just Arab and Palestinian cause. We think that the French Government is in the vanguard of the Western world as regards its stance on the Near East and Jerusalem.

Despite its progressive nature the French stance nonetheless falls far short of Arab and Muslim demands. That did not prevent France from making a broad contribution during the Tunis and Luxembourg conferences to the new European stance, which itself stems from new thinking on the Near East question and a better understanding of its facts.

[Question] France and Morocco, which import Iraqi oil, maintain relations of friendship and cooperation with Baghdad. Do they have the same position on the Iranian-Iraqi conflict?

[Answer] This fratricidal war is a source of anxiety and concern to our two countries because it has set fire to a strategic zone which is vital for shipping, international trade and the maintenance of peace and international stability. That is why Morocco and France hope that this conflict--which they are following very closely--will be settled as quickly as possible by peaceful means.

Having said that, a number of facts make Morocco particularly conscious of this war. I am disregarding the natural feelings which prompt us to support our Iraqi brothers and the need for solidarity which should govern the attitude of all Arab countries, because I think that when a friend and a brother is wrong you must not hesitate to tell him so. Now we are deeply convinced that Iraq is within its rights and is defending a principle which is crucial in the eyes of all Moroccans: that of territorial integrity. How could such a cause fail to be dear to the heart of Morocco, which is the country in the world to have suffered most from colonial partitioning and on which an unjust war has been thrust for 5 years, calling into question its territorial integrity?

[Question] Since Franco-Algerian relations improved, the possibility of France's mediating in the Western Sahara conflict has been mentioned several times. How do you view such mediation?

[Answer] As you know, the Royal Armed Forces are in full control in the field. The Polisario's incursions, is suicide missions and its triumphal communiques will not alter that fact. The Polisario its collapsing, and neither petrodollars, not petrodinars, nor sophisticated weapons can do anything about it. In addition, the Moroccans are fiercely determined not to allow their sovereignty over the southern provinces to be questioned.

Finally, Morocco has never stopped advocating a peaceful settlement through a process of dialogue and negotiations with Algeria since, in the final analysis, it is up to those two countries to decide to end the conflict. We would be particularly pleased for a country like France, which understands the root of the problem perfectly and possibly better than any other country, to take part in setting such a process in motion, either directly, or in the framework of joint EEC action, or jointly with other countries enjoying the same confidence, such as Tunisia and Saudi Arabia.

Rabat and the EEC

[Question] The forthcoming entry by Spain and Portugal into the EEC, coming after Greece's entry, is worrying Morocco, which fears competition from those countries for its agricultural exports to the common market. Will you raise that subject with the French prime minister?

[Answer] Yes, but we will also discuss the record we have been able to draw up of the implementation of the cooperation agreement linking us to the EEC since 1976, which has not been all that we had hoped. For instance, we are observing the erosion of the advantages granted to our plums by the virtual generalization of the tariff concessions to other partners; the excessive protection of the community's truck farming production secured artificially at a considerable cost (hothouse tomatoes) [gaso-tomates]; the very high amounts of aid granted, for instance, to tomoto concentrate, which has led to a complete halt in our imports to the EEC and to dumping practices on the international market; and protectionist barriers raised to keep out our textile exports, in violation of the spirit and the letter of the 1976 agreement.

While the EEC market was to enable us to increase the volume of our exports and consequently finance our energy imports, we note that our trade deficit with the EEC is still almost 3 billion dirhams or almost 40 percent of our total trade deficit. Leaving oil aside, 70 percent of our imports come from the EEC and consist mainly of manufactured goods. It is, therefore, vital for us to return to the objectives laid down in the 1976 agreement.

As regards a 12-member Europe, we know that it is bound to become self-sufficient in the main products which we now market in the community, but we also think that it is in nobody's interest for Europe to sacrifice its southern Mediterranean component by expanding, for that is likely to unbalance the whole region. We think there are solutions which will safeguard our positions, provided that some "local" contingencies are overcome.

[Question] How do you envisage the future of Franco-Moroccan economic relations?

[Answer] After the 3-year transition plan was launched in 1978, bringing about a lull in public and private investments, the value of consumer durables imported in 1979 was scarcely 67 percent of the 1977 level, and that explains why the volume of French exports to Morocco has dropped over the past 2 years. France's share of our total durables imports, however, stayed at the same level of 37 percent in 1978 as in 1977, and even increased to 43 percent in 1979. Thus, despite a special economic situation, France has remained our main supplier of consumer goods and durables.

As far as the future is concerned, I would like to remind you that we are about to adopt the 1981-1985 5-year plan which makes provision for a major revival in our economic growth, in which French enterprises could play an important part.

[Question] What place will the French language and culture have in Morocco in the future?

[Answer] Morocco is a historical and political entity; it is an Arab country and its official national language can only be Arabic. However, an open approach to the world makes the knowledge and use of foreign languages essential. Logically French is the preferred foreign language. Indeed, for historical reasons there is a considerable French cultural and educational infrastructure here and a receptive French-speaking social environment. Nonetheless there is real competition among the various languages within the international community. Therefore French should not make do with being a language of social events but must become a real instrument of international communication. It is up to France, therefore, to work to preserve and develop the international position and vocation of its language.

SUDAN

OFFICIAL MEETS WITH CHADIAN FROLINAT DELEGATION

JN241455 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1435 GMT 24 Jan 81

[Text] Khartoum, 24 Jan (SUNA)--Dr Yusuf Bisharah, secretary general of the National Council for Friendship, Solidarity and Peace, met with a delegation which represents the original Chad National Liberation Front (Frolinat). The delegation explained Chad's problem and its developments and thanked the Sudanese Government, under President Numayri's leadership, for its continued efforts to solve the Chadian issue peacefully. Dr Bisharah reiterated Sudan's eagerness to strengthen peace with friendly states within the context of the OAU and through the National Council for Friendship, Solidarity and Peace.

SENEGALESE PRESIDENT ATTACKS LIBYA-CHAD MERGER

JN241536 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1436 GMT 24 Jan 81

[Text] Khartoum, 24 Jan (SUNA)--Senegalese President Abdou Diouf has said that unity between Libya and Chad does not exist because it has been imposed on the Chadian people. In a statement to SUNA during a stopover in Khartoum today enroute to the Islamic summit conference, the Senegalese president added that Chad's provisional government does not have the authority to overstep the Lagos resolutions which stipulated the holding of free elections after which a legitimate government would decide on a policy suitable to the situation in Chad.

He added that his country will continue its efforts to establish peace and security and achieve national unity in Chad. He said that this should be based, first, on the withdrawal of Libyan troops and, second, on enabling an African force to maintain peace and security in Chad so that free elections can be held next April.

TUNISIA

TUNISIA, ZIMBABWE ESTABLISH DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS

LD231622 Tunis TAP in English 1350 GMT 23 Jan 81

[Text] Tunis, 23 Jan (TAP)--"The Government of the Tunisian Republic and the Government of the Republic of Zimbabwe have decided to establish diplomatic relations at the level of ambassadors starting from Dec 17, 1980," announced an official communique published in Tunis.

LIBYA'S AT-TURAYKI COMMENTS ON RELATIONS

LD242342 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 24 Jan 81

[Text] Libyan Foreign Liaison Secretary [title as heard] Dr 'Ali 'Abd as-Salam at-Turayki left Tunis this afternoon.

[Begin At-Turayki recording] [passage indistinct] During the visit we agreed to (?reinstate) the joint committee and implement all the agreements between the two countries. I can say with their implementation there will be complete economic integration between Tunisia and Libya. [passage indistinct]

The practical steps which we agreed to take, as I have already stated, will certainly make Tunisian-Libyan relations an example to be copied by (?African) and Arab states. [words indistinct] The Libyan revolution does not discriminate at all between Libyan and Tunisian citizens. We are brothers and (?members of the one big family) [words indistinct] from a (?personal view), I say that the visit was successful and it is a step toward strengthening relations between the two fraternal peoples. It will be followed by more (?similar steps). [Words indistinct] Tunisian officials will soon pay visits to the Jamahiriyah, and they will be headed by brother Mohammad Mzali, the prime minister, who has received an invitation to visit the Jamahiriyah [words indistinct]. Also officials from the Jamahiriyah will pay visits to fraternal Tunisia. [passage indistinct]

[Question] What is your view on the question of turning the theory of Arab solidarity into practical fact?

[At-Turayki] We believe in Arab solidarity, solidarity on the basis (?of aims) and the unity of the Arab nation [words indistinct] our destiny is one. [Words indistinct] the enemy does not differentiate between us or our political choices. [passage indistinct] It is our duty to make this solidarity basically directed at the enemy and not in the interest of the enemy. To talk about Arab solidarity with, for example, the Egyptian regime is not feasible, because this solidarity with the Egyptian regime will mean solidarity that benefits the enemy and not one that deters the enemy. We believe in this solidarity (?within the framework) of the aims of the Arab nation and the Arab people which are the complete liberation of the occupied Arab soil and the complete liberation of this very dear part of the Arab nation. [passage indistinct] [end recording]

SHAMIR SAYS DISCUSSIONS WITH U.S. NEEDED NOW

TA231617 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 23 Jan 81

[Text] Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir said that discussions should be held with the new U.S. administration now about the Sinai supervision arrangements and guaranteeing freedom of navigation in the straits in preparation for the last stage of the Sinai evacuation due in the spring of 1982. Our political correspondent notes that according to the peace agreement this task was imposed on the UN forces but since this was foiled by a Soviet veto the United States should now organize an international force according to one of the annexes of the peace treaty.

The foreign minister further stated that attempts should be made to try to conclude the autonomy talks this year. In our relations with the United States we should also give priority to the question of the status of Saudi Arabia, which is considered moderate by the United States in spite of its very extreme position toward Israel. Mr Shamir talked to the members of the Israel-U.S. Friendship Association.

EGYPTIAN, ISRAELI DELEGATIONS LEAVE FOR CAIRO

TA251213 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1015 GMT 25 Jan 81

[Text] Ben-Gurion Airport, 25 Jan--The Egyptian parliamentary delegation ended its visit to Israel at noon Sunday. In a news conference held at the conclusion of the 7-day visit the head of the [Egyptian Liberal Socialist] opposition party, Mustaff Kamal Murad, said that in many respects the visit here helped change his mind about Israel and his understanding of life here.

The Israeli military delegation headed by Brig Gen Dov Si'on left on the same plane in which the 10-member Egyptian delegation departed. The Israeli military delegation left for the continuation of the military talks between Israel and Egypt. Also leaving on the same plane was a delegation of Israeli Arab lecturers, headed by Muhammad (Watad), for a symposium on peace held in AL-AHRAM's strategic institute.

The head of the Egyptian parliamentary delegation, Dr Muhammad Ahmad 'Abdallah, said in his concluding remarks that the visit here gave the delegation members a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to conduct sincere and open-minded talks.

"Peace is today a fact and a reality," he stated, expressing the hope that both peoples will now be able to work together to find a real solution to all aspects of the Palestinian problem, as this problem lies at the core of the Middle East crisis.

"Israel will fulfill all its undertakings according to the peace treaty," he said.

Mr Murad, the head of the [Egyptian Liberal Socialist] opposition party, said in reply to a question that the visit helped change his mind in many ways since here he received a clearer picture about the various views prevailing in the Israeli public.

"I have come to realize that everyone, including the extremists, wants peace and the difference lies only in the manner of implementing it."

"This provides a very good basis for the future," he said, adding that his impression was that Israel, too, wants to speed up the autonomy talks now.

"I am convinced--peace is a established fact," he declared.

The lady in the delegation, Dr (Farhunda) Hasan Yusuf, the chairman of the Egyptian Interparliamentary Congress and a prominent figure in the Egyptian Parliament, was especially impressed with the fact that the Israeli woman plays an inportant role in public life and wields great influence on Israel's policy.

The Egyptian delegation's head heartily invited a delegation of Israeli Knesset members for a reciprocal visit to Egypt as soon as possible and whenever this is convenient for them from the point of view of Knesset activity.

Dr Binyamin Halevi spoke on behalf of the Knesset in his parting remarks to the Egyptian delegation. He said that the visit added another rung on the ladder of normalization.

This was the first contact between parliamentarians of both countries and Dr Halevi noted the sincerity and depth which characterized the talks here.

"We are still faced with huge difficulties but the foundations [for peace] have been laid and one thing is clear: there will be no more war. Both peoples want the autonomy talks to be speeded up," Dr Halevi stated.

The Israeli Arabs delegation is made up of Dr George Musa (Qiryani) and Dr Ibrahim (Jaras) from Haifa University, Dr Khalik ('Atamana) from Tel Aviv University, Dr Fadil Mansur from the Weizman Institute and Muhammad (Watad) from the Institute for Arab Studies in Giv'at Haviva.

This is the first time that an Israeli delegation will visit the strategic institute of AL-AHRAM and Mr (Watad) views this as a breakthrough on the intellectual plane. As part of its 4-day visit the delegation will also be guest of the Egyptian book fair, where the books of four of the delegation members will be exhibited.

The delegation members will meet with Egyptian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali as well as with a group of Egyptian intellectuals who have avoided meeting Israelis so far.

In answer to a question Mr (Watad) said that the delegation does not intend to enlist Egyptian support for the Israeli Arabs' struggle for equality of rights.

"This is an internal matter between Jews and Arabs in Israel and does not concern anyone outside Israel," Mr (Watad) said. The delegation members will still speak openly about events in Israel.

The topic of the symposium is "the vision of peace of the Israeli Arabs" and the idea to hold it was born in talks Mr (Watad) held with Dr Butrus Ghali in Tel Aviv. In those talks (Watad) noted that Egypt was, as it were, ignoring the Israeli Arabs and their role in the peace process.

BRITAIN SAID TRYING TO IMPROVE U.S.-PLO LINKS

TA231213 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 23 Jan 81 p 2

[By political correspondent Ilan Kfir]

[Text] The British Foreign Office has recently worked out a secret political plan aimed at bringing the United States and the Palestinians, including the PLO, closer and involving an amendment to UN Security Council Resolution 242. Reliable diplomatic sources have disclosed that British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher and Foreign Minister Lord Carrington intend to present their political plan to U.S. President Ronald Reagan and Secretary of State Alexander Haig when they meet in Washington next month.

The person behind the British initiative for the rapid incorporation of the Palestinians into the Middle East political process and in effecting closer relations with the PLO is Lord Carrington. It was he who recently initiated the establishment of a body for the Palestinians in the British Parliament which includes MP's from the three parties. The people responsible for writing the British document claim that this period of uncertainty while the new U.S. administration shapes its policy should be exploited to effect a change in Washington's position toward the Middle East conflict. The British intend to bring the United States closer to the PLO without which, they feel, it would be impossible to achieve a political arrangement in the Middle East.

It has been learned that Britain has been trying to pressure Netherlands Foreign Minister van der Klaauw, who is currently the chairman of the European foreign ministers' club, into more official European ties with the Palestinians and the PLO. The main guideline in the British document, the content of which has reached the said diplomatic sources, is that it is necessary to undermine the Camp David moves and underline the European initiative as the single possible solution to the Middle East conflict.

BACKGROUND OF PERES' VISIT TO AUSTRIA EXPLAINED

TA251627 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1510 GMT 25 Jan 81

[Text] We will turn first to the explanation for the Labor Party chairman's meetings in Austria. A few minutes ago Ra'anan Rein spoke with Mr Peres' spokesman, Yosi (Baylin):

[Begin recording] [Rein] Yosi (Baylin), the media here in Israel have published reports according to which Labor Party Chairman Shim'on Peres made a secret visit to Austria yesterday, where he also met with Austrian Chancellor Bruno Kreisky. What was the purpose of the visit and why did it have a secret nature?

[(Baylin)] The visit was not a secret one. He simply did not know about it much before it was made because it was decided upon during Peres' trip to Europe. Chancellor Kreisky asked to see him, to exchange views with him about the political situation, among other things also on the topic of the At-Ta'if conference, and he asked him to come to Vienna. We did not know about this in advance but right after the meeting, when we reached Amsterdam, Mr Peres informed the journalists about it. So it was not a secret meeting.

[Rein] Nevertheless, it was surprising that Mr Peres' meeting with the president of France and the prime minister of Britain had heavy reverberations and wide media coverage, while almost nothing was said about the Vienna meeting.

[(Baylin)] This fact is a direct result of the meeting having been arranged at the last minute, just like the meeting with Schmidt, which was also arranged during Peres' trip to Europe. It will be held tomorrow and was also decided upon at the last minute.

[Rein] What exactly did Kreisky and Peres discuss? I assume they did not meet just to speak about the At-Ta'if Islamic summit.

[(Baylin)] No, certainly not. The talk was held in the same way as were the others he held in Europe. There were exchanges of views about the current situation in the Middle East. This also in view of the change of U.S. administration and there was an attempt to think what scenario we can expect in the future.

[Rein] There was publicity saying that during his visit to Europe, Peres intends to meet an Arab or Palestinian personality. Is there any truth in these reports?

[(Baylin)] No, this is simply incorrect. [end recording]

ETHIOPIA

PDRY, PCI VISITORS' 24 JAN DEPARTURES REPORTED

LD242042 Addis Ababa in English to Neighboring Countries 1530 GMT 24 Jan 81 EA

[Text] Comrade Hadi Ahmad Nasir, member of the Central Committee of the Yemeni Socialist Party left for home this morning after presenting to Comrade Chairman Mengistu Haile Mariam the message sent by Comrade President 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, head of state of the PDRY. Comrade Hadi Ahmad Nasir was seen off at Bole International Airport by Comrade Dr Feleke Gedle-Giorgis, minister of foreign affairs and Commission for Organizing the Party of the Workers of Ethiopia Central Committee member.

Comrade Adalberto Minucci, member of the Politburo of the Italian Communist party and head of its information and propaganda department, has left for home today after concluding a week-long visit to socialist Ethiopia. Comrade Minucci said the Ethiopian revolution, which has gained international renown in a very short period of time, is of immense exemplary significance because of the contributions it has been making in the struggle to eradicate from the African soil feudalism, racism and oppression.

Comrade Minucci who was leading a three-member delegation, said that the victories scored by the Ethiopian revolution and the struggle being waged to construct a socialist economy were beyond his expectation. He stated that the results obtained have popular significance and lay a strong foundation for the construction of a socialist system. Comrade Minucci particularly expressed pleasure in the participation of workers, peasants, the revolutionary army, intellectuals and, in general, the broad masses of Ethiopia in the task of wiping out illiteracy from the country. He noted that the outcome of the campaign program carried out up to now is also praiseworthy.

KENYA

COMMUNIQUE ON MEETING WITH ETHIOPIAN OFFICIALS

LD241640 Nairobi Domestic Service in English 0400 GMT 24 Jan 81 EA

[Text] Kenya and Ethiopia have called on all nations to desist from arming the expansionist Somali regime under any pretext whatsoever. The call was contained in a joint communique issued at the end of the 4-day highly successful meeting of the 10th annual Ethiopian-Kenyan joint border commissioners meeting, which was signed yesterday at Awasa Town.

In the communique, the two countries noted with concern the repeated aggression continuously perpetrated by Somalia against the territories of the two countries. They strongly condemned these aggressive activities and reaffirmed the two countries' total commitment to preserve the territorial integrity and sanctity of boundaries as enshrined in the OAU charter.

The meeting reiterated its commitment to create an atmosphere of mutual understanding and confidence in the Horn of Africa and cooperation between the states of the region.

It was noted that Kenya and Ethiopia continue to enjoy a rapid consolidation and expansion in the fields of their economic, trade, transport, communications, defense and security matters.

Kenya was represented at the meeting by Kenya's ambassador to Ethiopia, Mr Nganatha; the Rift Valley Provincial Commissioner [PC], Mr Njuguna Ndoro; the northeastern PC, Mr Benson Kaaria and senior officials of the Kenya Government.

SOMALIA

SIAD BARRE CONGRATULATES REAGAN ON HOSTAGE RELEASE

LD231605 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1400 GMT 23 Jan 81 EA

[Text] Somali President Challe Mohamed Siad Barre today sent a congratulatory message to American President Mr Ronald Reagan on the release of the Americans who had been held hostage in Iran. Challe Siad said in his message that he was relieved and delighted at the news of the release of the American hostages from Iran, whose long ordeal has ended peacefully.

In his message Challe Siad added that he hopes for the return of normal relations between America and Iran. Such a normalization of relations between the two countries will be beneficial not only to the American and Iranian people and governments but also to peace in the world at large. Challe Siad ended his message by saying that the Somali people join the American people, and in particular the immediate relatives of the hostages, in welcoming the diplomats captured while in the diplomatic service of their nation back to peace and freedom.

Somali President Challe Siad sent a similar message to the Iranian president, Mr Abolhasan Bani-Sadr.

TANZANIA

NYERERE DISMISSES TRANSPORT MINISTER, MANAGER

LD232142 Dar es Salaam Domestic Service in Swahili 1700 GMT 23 Jan 81 EA

[Text] President Nyerere today relieved the minister of communications and transport, Ndugu Augustine Mwingara, of his post as well as of the chairmanship of the board of directors of the Air Tanzania Corporation. A statement issued by the government today said Mwalimu also dismissed the general manager of the Air Tanzania Corporation, Ndugu [Lawrence Mmati).

The statement said that in every corporation there are people who have been given the responsibility of conducting the activities of the corporation on behalf and for the benefit of the people. It said these people are dutybound to the people and must accept the onus of blame for failing to discharge their duties. The statement added that the party's Central Committee has been meeting in Dar es Salaam and that it began its work by examing agreements concerning millions of shillings in Tanzania and foreign currencies. [as heard] The committee is satisfied that with regard to the Air Tanzania Corporation a big mess has been made of the arrangement of international agreements, something that has made Tanzania lose a lot of money and the corporation its international dignity.

The government statement also said that on 10 January, two well-known Dar es Salaam businessmen, A.M. (Bajpar) and (Abdul Haji), were detained on the president's order. The businessmen were detained for being involved in economic activities which threaten national security. It said the conduct of these businessmen has endangered and degraded Tanzania's reputation in its commercial transactions with other countries and ruined the reputation of some leaders and public corporations.

The statement stressed that President Nyerere has emphasized many times the government and party's intention to take appropriate steps against all those who make mistakes or fail to discharge their duties as and when they are found. It added that these steps have begun to be taken and these are merely the first.

The National Executive Committee met on 10 January to examine the supply and distribution of goods in the country. The Central Committee, for its part, has been meeting to examine more broadly the shaky state of government policy and finances. The Central Committee is expected to continue its special meeting on Monday.

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

FOREIGN MINISTER CALLS CHAD THREAT TO STABILITY

AB251235 Paris AFP in French 1408 GMT 24 Jan 81

[Excerpt] Paris, 24 January, (AFP)--Simon Bedaya Ngaro, CAR minister of foreign affairs, asserted in Paris on Saturday that the situation in Chad is likely to destabilize Africa and pose a threat to world peace and security.

The Chadian problem, he said in an interview with AFP, constitutes one of Africa's major problems, especially to the CAR. We are following the evolution of the situation with vigilance. Mr Ngaro, who is on a short visit to France, had a meeting with French Foreign Minister Jean-Francois Poncet on Friday evening, during which both men discussed Libyan intervention in Chad.

On Thursday Chad and Libya called for a meeting of African heads of state to demand the withdrawal of French troops from Africa especially in the CAR, where France recently sent reinforcements after the proposed union between Tripoli and Ndjamena was announced. They, that is Chad and Libya, were trying to divert attention away from the true situation because it is they that constitute a threat not the CAR, which is a peaceful country, the CAR minister stressed. They must first of all implement the Lagos agreement and the decisions of the African heads of state in Lome before making other proposals. It is not logical, he said. In Lome, 12 heads of state called for withdrawing foreign troops from Chad, sending a commission and an African force there with UN support and holding elections between now and the end of April under OAU auspicies.

The Transitional National Union Government presided over by Goukouni Oueddei was set up by the OAU in Lagos in 1979. Until it is confirmed by elections, it is not free to make any pronouncements, Mr Ngaro stressed. The minister also stressed that the CAR shares about 500 km of common borders with Chad as well as blood, historical and geographical ties. All that affects it, affects us, he said. He stressed that French troops were in the CAR to help reorganize the army which did not exist at the time of the liberation, that is the fall of Bokassa, and also to prevent an invasion of the Central African territory one day after what has happened in Chad.

He also affirmed that his country is committed to preventing its territory from becoming a meetingground for Chadian factions. They, that is the Libyans, constitute the threat, and not us. This threat, he said is characterized by military intervention and the merger agreement.

CHAD

COURT SET UP TO TRY HABRE, OTHERS IN ABSENTIA

AB251315 Paris AFP in French 1138 GMT 25 Jan 81

[Text] Bangui, 25 Jan (AFP)--It was learned (?Sunday) from sources very close to Chadian circles in Bangui that a criminal court will be set up in Ndjamena, the Chadian capital, to judge in absentia seven personalities including former rebel Defense Minister Hissein Habre. In addition to Mr Habre, who is the leader of the FAN Command Council, the faction which was defeated in the Chadian civil war, the court will also judge Idriss Kiskine, vice president of the FAN; Mahamat Saleh Ahmat, former Finance Minister; Zagamat Noury, member of the FAN; Michel Froud, spokesman of the FAN; Khaili Dabzac, member of the FAN; and Hamis Togoi, FAN radio's main announcer during the war and former chief of President Goukouni Oueddei's press service.

It is not yet known when the trial of these personalities, who fled the country after the fall of Ndjamena to the followers of Goukouni Oueddei with the support of the Libyan forces, will begin.

CAPE VERDE

PEREIRA SENDS TELEGRAM TO GUINEA-BISSAU LEADER

LD240350 Lisbon Domestic Service in Portuguese 0100 GMT 24 Jan 81

[Text] In a message to Guinea-Bissau leader Nino Vieira, Aristides Pereira has expressed Cape Verde's willingness to cooperate with Guinea-Bissau. The telegram from President Aristides Pereira of Cape Verde informs the chairman of the Revolutionary Council of Guinea-Bissau about the establishment of the new African Independence Party of Cape Verde decided upon at a congress held from 16 to 20 January of this year in the Cape Verdian capital of Praia.

MALI

WESTERN SAHARAN FOREIGN MINISTER ON OAU ACTIONS

AB240845 Bamako Domestic Service in French 1500 GMT 23 Jan 81

[Text] Col Amadou Baba Diarra, deputy secretary general of the Democratic Union of the Malian People [UDPM] received at 1100, on behalf of the head of state, His Excellency Ibrahim Hakim, the Western Saharan foreign affairs minister. The Western Saharan diplomat brought a message from the secretary general of the Polisario Front, Mohamed Abdel Aziz, to President Moussa Traore.

The discussions centered around the forthcoming celebration of the fifth anniversary of the proclamation of the SDAR on 25 February and the evolution of the Western Saharan situation in the military and diplomatic sectors. The implementation of the OAU and UN resolutions, especially the recent Freetown ones by the OAU ad hoc committee were also discussed in the presence of Boubacar Diallo, our minister of labor and civil service, representing the minister of foreign affairs and international cooperation.

The deputy secretary general of the UDPM asked the Western Saharan envoy to transmit the fraternal greetings of the Malian people to the people of Western Sahara. The Western Saharan minister answered questions from Oumar Sangare at the end of the audience:

[Begin Hakim recording] I have come to Bamako to deliver a message to the head of state, President Moussa Traore, from his brother, Mohamed Abdel Aziz, secretary general of the Polisario Front. The message deals with the close and fraternal relations existing first of all between the peoples of Mali and Western Sahara and then between the Republics of Mali and Western Sahara.

[Question] Mr Minister, the last OAU conference in Freetown passed a certain number of resolutions on Western Sahara. What was your government's reactions?

[Answer] The SDAR Government's positon as regards international organizations, and particularly with regard to our continental organization, has always been very clear and stems from our wish to cooperate with these organizations and trust them. But the efforts of these organizations, which are complementary with ours have been sabotaged and soiled. [end recording]

NIGERIA

EDITORIAL URGES DYNAMIC REAGAN AFRICA POLICY

AB241225 Lagos International Service in English 0830 GMT 24 Jan 81

[Press review]

[Excerpt] "Africa and the Reagan Era" is the title of the NIGERIAN STATESMAN's editorial. The paper joins millions of peoples all over the world in congratulating Mr Reagan on his ascension to power.

It, however, hopes that the almost 70-year-old American leader will apply the type of dynamism and determination that saw him to the White House in solving problems that lie ahead of him, especially the issue of America's African policy and increasing domestic ills in his country. While wishing the president a successful tenure of office, the STATESMAN reminds him that any American policy toward Africa that is based on nothing but words is bound to be everything but effective.

PAPER VIEWS LIBYA-CHAD 'MARRIAGE OF CONVENIENCE'

AB241230 Lagos International Service in English 0830 GMT 24 Jan 81

[Press review]

[Excerpt] The DAILY STAR takes another look at the so-called merger between Libya and Chad. The paper describes it as a marriage of convenience brought about by Libya's intervention in the internal affairs of Chad. While the STAR commends the stand taken by the OAU on the issue, it wonders why the continental body did not intervene militarity to end the Chadian conflict. Also, the paper expresses surprise that the OAU did not condemn France for meddling in African affairs.

RULING, OPPOSITION PARTIES' SUPPORTERS CLASH

AB231418 Paris AFP in English 1354 GMT 23 Jan 81

[Text] Lagos, 23 Jan (AFP)--Seventeen people were seriously wounded in clashes yesterday in Abeokuta, capital of Nigeria's Western state of Ogun, between supporters of the Unity Party of Nigeria and the ruling party at federal level, the National Party of Nigeria. Last night police were patrolling all the main streets of Abeokuta, according to one report.

Fighting broke out in the main streets of the town, some 80 kms (50 miles) north of Lagos, and by mid-day its main market was abandoned as traders ran for their lives, reports said.

According to the government-owned NEW NIGERIAN newspaper, the fighting began at the house of the mother of Chief Awolowo, leader of the Unity Party, where some party officials were, it said, entertaining themselves.

Seeing a car belonging to the National Party, they attacked and destroyed it, the report added. The paper said the scene then attracted more Unity Party supporters who joined in the fighting, using what were described as dangerous weapons.

ADDITIONAL ARRESTS IN CONNECTION WITH KANO RIOT

AB231757 Kaduna Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 23 Jan 81

[Text] In Bauchi, a society suspected to be part of the (?Al Masifu) group responsible for the Kano religious riot has been discovered. It is known as (Al Masifu Basaga). Eleven members of the society appeared before a magistrate court in the state capital today.

According to the police first information report, the 11 members were among the first bunch which operated during the Kano riot. The police also said the society planned to burn strategic places and some government offices last Friday at 2330 in the night.

The police prosecutor told the court that one of the accused, who gave his name as (Ahiru Mustalah), reported the plan to the police after setting fire to the new market as arranged, while his colleagues failed to carry out their assignment.

The trial magistrate, Chief (Akindele Solah), remanded all the accused in prison custody until the 3d day of next month, when hearing resumes.

SOUTH AFRICA

VILJOEN URGES UN IMPARTIALITY ON SOUTH-WEST AFRICA

LD231220 Johannesburg International Service in English 1100 GMT 23 Jan 81

[Text] The South African state president says United Nations support for SWAPO, which uses terror and intimadation in seeking to impose itself on the people of South-West Africa, cannot be condoned. Opening the fifth session of the Sixth Parliament of the Republic of South Africa in Cape Town, President Viljoen said it was regrettable that a peaceful settlement for South-West Africa was still an illusive objective. President Viljoen said the practical and visible demonstration by the United Nations of its imparitality in contrast to its past and present actions was a prerequisite to the creation of the necessary confidence that free and fair elections without any inbuilt advantage to any party could take place under United Nations supervision.

Over a long period of time the South African Government has showed itself willing to find a fair solution for South-West Africa. It had agreed to the conference in Geneva last week to present the parties involved with a chance to solve the impasse on the territory.

President Viljoen said that although South Africa had reason along with many other countries to be concerned about the unstable military, economic and social conditions in the world, the sustained progress of South Africa contrasted sharply with conditions in the rest of Africa. The period of renewal and progress which the country had entered was continuing and in the year ahead greater impetus would be given to the process by the deliberations on and the creation of constitutional structures which would accomodate the political aspiration of the various population groups.

President Viljoen appealed to the whole population to support wholeheartedly the government's efforts to ensure peaceful and orderly coexistence in South Africa. He said that in the interests of orderly advancement of the black people of southern Africa and the raising of their standard of living the development of the national states was receiving the government's constant attention. The government was constantly engaged in actively promoting the constitutional development of the self-governing national states to give them greater autonomy.

President Viljoen said a new dispensation for black people would be introduced in the further implementation of the government's decision on the recommendations of the Riekert Commission. On the economy, the state president said despite the prevailing boom conditions and the excellent economic conditions for the year ahead, it would be shortsighted to imagine that prosperity of such exceptional order could continue unabated.

President Viljoen said the government would give further attention to adjustments to the tax system aimed at spreading the tax burden more evenly and the encouragement for initiatives and productivity in all sectors of the economy.

Urgent attention would also be given to the final report of the De Kock commission towards the middle of the year when it would be issued in order for there to be a more effective control on money supply.

The state president said that to raise the standard of living of all South Africans high priority would be given to provisions of adequate housing, especially for the less privileged sector. There would be closer liaison and cooperation with the national states in the development of all of southern Africa.

GENERAL LLOYD CLAIMS SWAPO NEEDS CEASE-FIRE

LD241030 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 22 Jan 81 CA

[Text] The general commanding the territory force of South-West Africa, Major General Lloyd, says SWAPO has never needed a cease-fire more desperately than now. Briefing members of the President's Council in Windhoek on the military situation in South-West Africa, he said that SWAPO had been disrupted as a result of the successes achieved by the Southern African Defense Force and the territory force over a period. SWAPO had suffered serious losses in men and equipment, its supply routes had been cut off and it had been compelled to move its bases further into Angola. The action of the security forces was so successful that SWAPO patrols had little time in which to carry out acts of sabotage or intimidate the local population. SWAPO would dearly like to conclude a cease-fire agreement in order to recover its losses. General Lloyd said it was essential that political and constitutional development in South-West Africa should keep pace with the successes of the security forces.

The members of the President's Council returned to Pretoria today after a 3-day tour of the operational area. Among the 18 visitors to the area were the state vice president and chairman of the council, Mr Schlebusch, the chairman of the Planning Committee, Mr Raubenheimer, and the chairman of the Scientific Committee, Professor Marais.

PRETORIA DECLINES COMMENT ON ANGOLAN LETTER

LD242140 Johannesburg International Service in English 2100 GMT 24 Jan 81

[Excerpt] The Angolan ambassador to the United Nations, Mr Elisio de Figueiredo, has claimed that South African soldiers, who moved in on the 12th of this month are still holding the town of Cuamato. Mr de Figueredo made the claim in a letter to the UN secretary general, Dr Kurt Waldheim, asking that he circulate it as a document of the Security Council. He did not ask for a council meeting.

In Pretoria, a spokesman for defense headquarters has stated that he does not wish to comment on the Angolan ambassador's letter. He pointed out that the general officer commanding the South-West Africa territory force, Major General Lloyd, announced earlier in the month that a number of SWAPO terrorists had been killed during a hot pursuit operation.

ZAMBIA

KUANDA ASSURES SWAPO'S NUJOMA OF SUPPORT

LD261101 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 23 Jan 81 CA

[Excerpt] President Kaunda today assured the South-West Africa People's Organization, SWAPO, that Zambia will continue supporting them until genuine independence is achieved in Namibia. Dr Kaunda, who was speaking when SWAPO President Sam Nujoma called on him at State House to brief him on the recent abortive Geneva conference on Namibia, explained that SWAPO was for peace because they fought to end the armed struggle to achieve Namibians genuine independence. The president noted that the recently ended conference on Namibia exposed to the international community the people who are blocking genuine independence in the territory, mainly South Africa. He praised SWAPO for standing firm when the racist regime of South Africa did everything to provoke the organization, saying that SWAPO's patience was a sign of maturity.

REPORTS, COMMENT ON COPPERBELT MINERS' STRIKES

LD231456 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 22 Jan 81 CA

[Text] Kitwe police in full riot kits were this morning deployed at the Rokana mine of the Nchanga Consolidated Copper Mines [NCCM] as striking miners allegedly starting stoning anyone who wanted to enter the mine area and the governor, Mr Joseph Musonda, also rushed to the mine after the district political secretary, Mr (Benson Ilunga), was stoned by angry miners. The company spokesman for NCCM added that all divisions of NCCM, except a centralized service division and Copperbelt power company in Kitwe, are on strike. The miners are striking together with their counterparts in other Copperbelt towns against the expulsion of Mineworkers' Union of Zambia leaders from the party.

Circular Seizures

LD231814 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 22 Jan 81 CA

[Text] A number of circulars connecting some top labor leaders to the current wave of strikes by miners of the Copperbelt have been seized by the party in Chingola. One of the circulars, which directly refers to the outlawed United Progressive Party of the late Mr Simon (Mwanza) Kapwepwe, calls on miners to unite and rise against the national leaders in the party and its government. Describing the contents of the circulars which had been confiscated, area district council chairman Russell Mwale pointed out that they were grabbed from some local Mineworkers Union of Zambia officials. Mr Mwale said it was now clear that the United National Independence Party was dealing with a political problem and a labor dispute. Mr Mwale said although the dispute was between the party and the underground political movement, mine management officials should work tirelessly to normalize the situation. The district council chairman promised to call an emergency disciplinary council meeting as soon as the industrial unrest ceased, to deal with those directly implicated in the antiparty activities which have resulted in the miners strike. At the Cingola Division of the Nchanga Consolidated Copper Mines only about 100 workers reported for work while none did so at the open pit.

Work Resumption

LD261106 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 24 Jan 81 CA

[Text] Miners at the Luanshya Division of Roan Consolidated Mines [RCM] resumed work this morning after a 4-day strike. At dawn today a ZANA reporter saw miners on the morning shift rushing to the mine plant area, and those he talked to confirmed that they were going back to work since the position regarding their union leaders had been clarified. The miners, along with those at other divisions belonging to the two mining companies, Nchanga Consolidated Copper Mines [NCCM] and RCM, downed tools earlier this week following the expulsion of their union leaders from the party. The government through the Ministry of Labor and Social Services [words indistinct] that the expelled leaders are legally still their workers' union representatives.

Branch secretary to the National Union of Posts and Telecommunications, Mr Joseph (Mwape), said in Luanshya today that his members, who had gone on strike yesterday, have returned to work for the same reason.

The latest report just received says all of the 5,000-strong miners at Konkola Division of NCCM returned to work today. A mines spokesman said the situation was back to normal. At Kitwe Centralized Service Division well over 900 workers have also returned to work.

Press Commentary

LD231618 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 0525 GMT 23 Jan 81 CA

[Excerpts] Kitwe District Political Secretary Benson Ilunga was yesterday beaten up by striking miners. He was admitted to Kitwe Central Hospital with a suspected fractured arm and ribs. And so today's TIMES OF ZAMBIA opinion editorializes on the miners' strike and reads:

Where is the miners' strike leading to? First it was Konkola. Now it has virtually covered the whole Copperbelt. First it was merely token. Now it has become violent. What next? Bloodshed forbid! It is regrettable and completely un-Zambian that striking miners should be resorting to violence. The beating-up of Kitwe's district political secretary, Benson Ilunga, is despicable. More than that, it shows the real motive of the strikers. They are prepared to kill in their open defiance of the party. We do not hesitate to strongly condemn here and now the violent nature of the strikers crippling Kitwe. The present illegal defiance against established authority by the striking miners smacks of a deliberate plot. That plot leads only to one thing: The disintegration of Zambia as a nation. Is that what the strikers want? Each striking miner should be reminded, if he does not know, that his action is bringing into jeopardy not only his future livelihood but that of his children, his dependants and that of the nation. Why should you pander to the mistakes of the few who have been expelled from the party? Three days of illegality are more than the party can tolerate. Thanks to the leadership of President Kaunda, the party is being patient over the whole issue. But this patience (?should not) be mistaken for weakness.

ZIMBABWE

LIBYAN OFFICIAL BRIEFS MUGABE ON CHAD SITUATION

LD231500 Salisbury Domestic Service in English 1614 GMT 22 Jan 81 CA

[Text] The secretary of the Libyan People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison, Comrade 'Abd al-' al-'Ati al-'Ubaydi, who has been visiting Zimbabwe, gave a news conference today where he dismissed reports that Libya is intending to take control of Chad. Comrade 'Abd al-'Ati al-'Ubaydi confirmed that he met the prime minister, Comrade Mugabe, this morning and briefed him on the situation in Libya and Chad. He left Salisbury today for Lusaka, where he will also brief the Zambian leader, Dr Kaunda, on the same issue. (Jesse Shiguko) of ZBC [Zimbabwe Broadcasting Corporation] news service was at the conference:

[Shiguko] Speaking at the news conference in Salisbury today, Comrade Al-Ubaydi said the governments of Libya and Chad only issued a joint communique calling for closer unity and cooperation between the two countries. Comrade 'Al-'Ubaydi said it was agreed that there will be no merger between the two countries until referendums have been held in the two states. He said the agreement is in line with the Organization of African Unity charter, which encourages unity and cooperation among African states. Comrade 'Al-'Ubaydi appealed to all African states to guard against false information and foreign interference, especially from France.

On the question of withdrawing Libyan troops from Chad, Comrade 'Al-'Ubaydi said his country will not comply to any order from France but only the country concerned or other African states. He said the Libyan forces in Chad are strong enough to resist any French intervention.

Comrade 'Al-'Ubaydi this morning met the prime minister, Comrade Mugabe, to whom he gave a briefing on the situation in Libya and Chad. He described this discussion as very fruitful. He said during the talks Comrade Mugabe urged the two nations to find a solution to the crisis. Comrade 'Al-'Ubaydi has already left Salisbury for Lusaka, where he will give a similar briefing to the Zambian head of state, Dr Kenneth Kaunda. He will also visit Guinea-Bissau, the Cape Verde Islands, Kenya, Uganda, Sao Tome and Tanzania.